OUR NEIGHBORS ON LA FAYETTE SQUARE

By

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE

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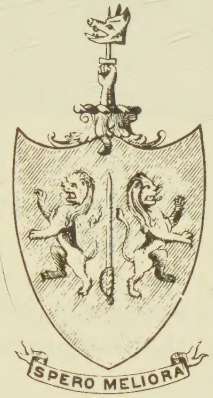
OUR NEIGHBORS ON LA FAYETTE SQUARE

ANECDOTES AND REMINISCENCES

by

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE



SELECTIONS FROM

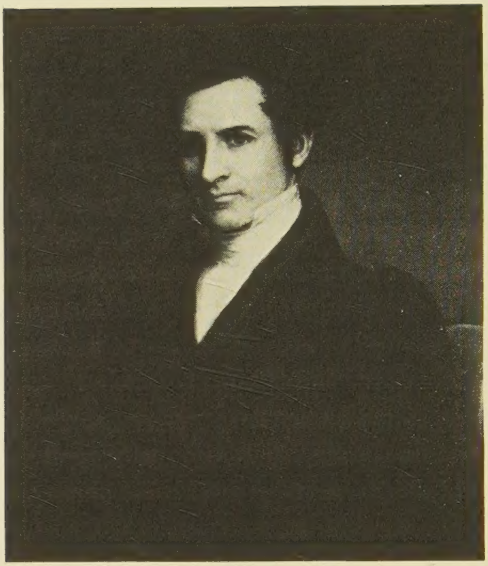
In Memoriam

WASHINGTON.

1872.

A privately-printed volume from the library of the American Institute of Architects; in cooperation with The Octagon

Reprinted with illustrations and notes added by The Junior League of Washington



Attributed to Thomas Sully privately owned

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE
1792-1868

Mr. Tayloe was born in the last year of the administration of Washington, and died at the close of the administration of Johnson. His life of nearly seventy-two years comprised an era remarkably prolific in great events and great men. The rise and fall of Napoleon, the restoration of the Bourbons, the dissolution of the Federal party in the United States, the advent of Jacksonism, the *emeute* of nullification in South Carolina, the annihilation of the Democratic party through the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, the consequent triumph of the Anti-Slavery party, and the great civil war between the North and the South, all occurred during his life. Bred up in the principles of the Revolution, and in those of the Federal party, of which his grandfather Governor Ogle, and his father Colonel Tayloe, were distinguished members, he never abandoned them. Although Southern by birth, he had no sectional prejudices, and often in after years he alluded to the administration of John Quincy Adams as, next to that of Washington, the purest with which the nation had ever been favored.

In this introductory biography, Roman type (as in the paragraph above) indicates quotations from the original Tayloe volume; italics indicate Junior League addenda.

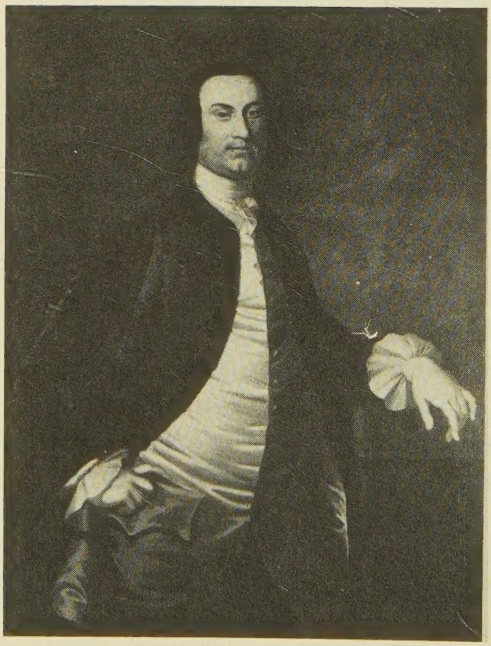
BIOGRAPHY.

1796

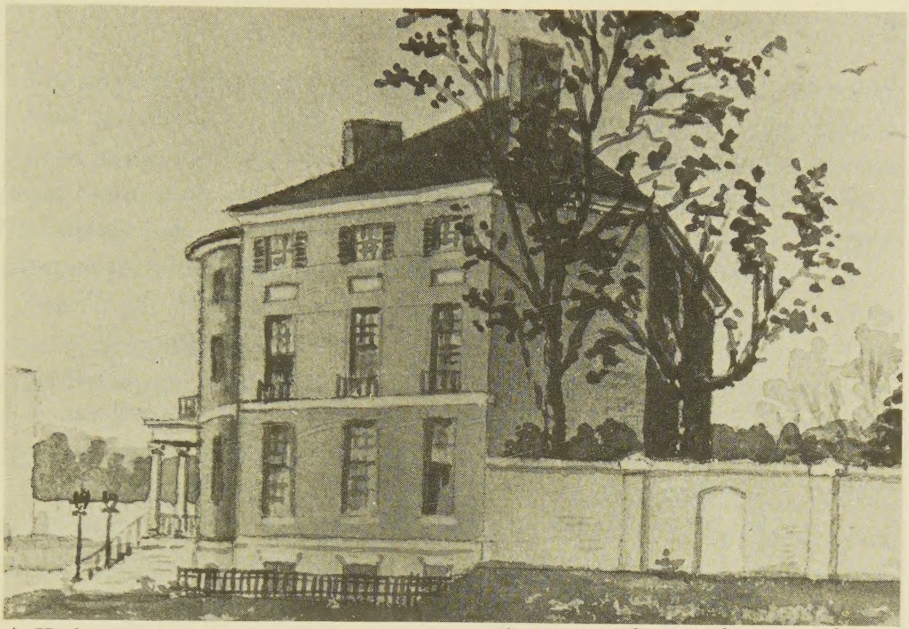
Birth.

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE was born at Annapolis, Maryland, in the house of his maternal grandfather, Governor Benjamin Ogle, on the twenty-first of May, 1796. He was the second son of Colonel John Tayloe, of Mount Airy, in Virginia, and Ann Ogle, his wife. The early years of his life were passed at Mount Airy and in Washington City, the winter residence of Colonel Tayloe from the year 1801. As a child he was amiable, affectionate, and intelligent. Colonel Tayloe, who was twenty-five years of age at the time of his son's birth, had been educated at Eton and Cambridge, in England, where his associates were of the highest rank among the English nobility and gentry, and had recently succeeded to the largest estate in Virginia. His manners were refined and elegant. He was distinguished for his nice sense of honor, and a scrupulous regard to his word and all his obligations. His wife was admired and esteemed for sincerity and kindness of heart, graceful and dignified manners, and true and unaffected piety.

Mount Airy, the residence of Colonel Tayloe, was at this time the most superb mansion in Virginia. It had been erected in



John Tayloe II (1721-1779), *seen in the portrait at left by John Wollaston, completed Mount Airy in 1758 after a decade of building. The picture above is from a print owned by the Virginia Historical Society. He, his father and his grandfather William (the emigrant) served on the King's Council, Virginia's highest tribunal. His acreage was in tobacco but race horses were his great interest.*



A. Harkness

Government Services Savings and Loan Association, Bethesda, Maryland

Colonel John Tayloe III (1771-1828), *seen at right in a portrait by St. Memin, built the Octagon. The American Institute of Architects moved into the Octagon in 1899; now it preserves it as a museum at its Washington headquarters. This portrait is in the Octagon dining room.*

1796

Family connections.

1758 by his father, on a scale of magnificence unsurpassed at that period in this country. Descended from the Corbins, Fauntleroys, Gwynnes, and Platers, and connected by the marriage of his sisters with the Lloyds of Maryland, the Wormeleys, Lees, Pages, Washingtons, Carters, Beverleys, and Lomaxes, of Virginia, and through his wife with the Bladens, Taskers, and Ogles, of Maryland, Colonel Tayloe entered upon life under advantages which very few men in this country have

Hospitality.

possessed. He was remarkable for the unrivalled splendor of his household and equipages, for his unbounded and elegant hospitality at Mount Airy and in Washington, for his ardent patriotism, and the admirable management of his great estates. Thorough-going, and of indomitable energy in all his affairs, he went upon the turf in 1791, and soon rose to the head of it in his native State; maintaining his position with great brilliancy until his retirement in 1810.

Social relations.

In such a household, and with such an *entourage*, Ogle Tayloe passed the days of his early youth; in frequent intercourse with the most polished and refined society in America; with gentlemen of the old school who had stood shoulder to shoulder with Washington in the war of the Revolution, and with Hamilton, Jay, Marshall, and Pinckney, in the councils of the nation. Within the circle of his own family were the venerable Governor Ogle, of Maryland, a patriarch of unsullied honor; the Honorable Ralph Wormeley, of Rosegill, distinguished even in England for his profound and elegant scholarship, and Francis Corbin, of the Reeds, a gentleman who would have been an

Education.

ornament to any court in Europe. His education was commenced under a private tutor, Mr. Samuel Hoar, of Massachusetts, a distinguished graduate of Harvard, and subsequently one of the most eminent jurists in his native State.

The two preceding pages of text, reproduced photographically, introduce a book published in 1872: This Memorial of the late Benjamin Ogle Tayloe, compiled from his papers, note-books and contributions to the press, is privately printed for the gratification of his family and friends. *His widow dedicated it:* To our children this memorial of their father is affectionately inscribed by their mother Phoebe Warren Tayloe.

From many different sections of this large volume, the Junior League has chosen paragraphs of interest for the following biographical pages and for some of the picture captions. The "La Fayette Square" chapter is printed in its entirety; "Anecdotes" have been selected for relevance to Washington. Junior League comments throughout are in italics.

In this memorial volume, his biographer, Winslow M. Watson, wrote that young Ogle was sent to Philips Academy in Exeter, in New Hampshire, then the most celebrated school in the country. *In 1815 he graduated from Harvard. Mr. Watson explained* Boston at that time was renowned for the high tone of its society, for elegance of manners, a refined taste in literature, and a noble and generous hospitality. Notwithstanding the ultra Federalism which pervaded its political atmosphere, there was no city of the North in which the Southerner was more warmly welcomed. In Boston, Mr. Tayloe formed, during his university days, friendships which terminated only with his life; and which neither sectional hatred nor the horrors of a civil war could disturb.

A few months after leaving the University, Mr. Tayloe commenced the study of law in the office of the Hon. Richard Rush, of Pennsylvania, then Attorney-General of the United States; an event which resulted in a warm and uninterrupted friendship between them. . . . In the year 1817, Mr. Rush was appointed by Mr. Monroe Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James. From Mr. Rush, Mr. Tayloe received the appointment of Private Secretary, and *attaché* to the Legation. *A grand tour of the continent followed his months in London.*

Soon after his return from Europe, Mr. Tayloe became the possessor of Windsor, a beautiful estate in King George County, Virginia, on the Potomac, and here he began the life of an agriculturalist. Before his marriage, Windsor was his bachelor residence for the greater part of the year—his winters being spent at the Octagon, the residence of his father, in Washington.

Richard Blome

Colonial Williamsburg

National Intelligencer, April 15, 1807

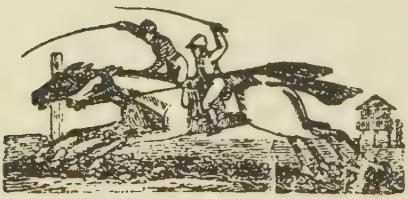
In the autumn of 1823 the great match between Eclipse and Henry, the North against the South, was run over the Long Island course. In this race Mr. Tayloe was deeply interested, both Eclipse and Henry being descended from horses imported or bred by his father, Colonel Tayloe. Of this celebrated contest Mr. Tayloe wrote a report, which was printed in all the leading journals of America and Great Britain. . . . From this time to the close of his life, Mr. Tayloe wrote voluminously for the American Turf Register, the Spirit of the Times, and the Turf, Field, and Farm, on the race-horse and his performances in England and America, and came to be regarded as the highest authority on turf matters on this side of the Atlantic. His extraordinary memory enabled him at any time to give the details of all noted races at home or abroad, without reference to books or papers, and with unfailing accuracy.

The following letter, containing many interesting reminiscences of the turf in America, may be cited as a remarkable evidence of the strength and accuracy of Mr. Tayloe's memory. It was written when he was past seventy, and without reference to the slightest data of any description:

Arcachon, France, 29th April, 1867.

Although this goes from France, my theme is entirely American. Your late notice of the Washington City Race-course recalls many long-forgotten associations . . . there were giants in those days, as names and achievements testify. This was the age of Amanda, of Florizel, of the Maid of the Oaks, three first-rate race-horses—the ancestors of Eclipse, Medoc,

Boston, Lexington, Lightning, and others of renown; the age of Post Boy, of Oscar, of First Consul, of Hickory, of Sir Archy, of Duroc, and of Miller's Damsel. Excepting the first two, the Washington City Race-course was the arena of these renowned champions, owned and run by gentlemen of education, position, and opulence, whose coaches and four, as those of other magnates, gave splendor to that course, which was often graced by several Presidents, from Jefferson down to Van Buren. There I saw John Quincy Adams on foot, he having walked from "the President's house", and he walked back again. General Jackson took the liveliest interest in its races. I recollect a colt of his was started for a great sweepstakes, in the name of his private secretary, Major Donelson, but he was beat by Commodore Stockton's imported Langford, much to the chagrin of the old President, who had a genuine taste for sport. This was the scene, too, of the turf eccentricities of Dr. Thornton, remarkable for his humor, his benevolence, and accomplishments.



NATIONAL JOCKEY CLUB RACES

SPRING MEETING, 1836,

Over the old fashionable Course, within two miles of the city of Washington, D. C., (now greatly improved by the erection of spacious and commodious buildings for the Club spectators, and horses' extensive enclosures; the widening and smoothing of all obstructions in the track, wherefore it is now better adapted to speed than on any former occasion, equal in that and every other respect to any course,) will commence on the second Tuesday in May next, with the great sweepstake for three year old Colts and Fillies, mile heats; sub. $1000; forfeit $250, ten subscribers and close.

1. Colonel J. M. Selden names c. by Sir Charles, dam by Sir Hal, the joint property of James Gettings and himself.

2. Major A. J. Donelson names br. f. by Bolivar, out of the dam of Busiros.

The Globe, April 20, 1836

I remember to have heard a lady of the olden time say that while on a visit at Mount Vernon she was invited by General Washington to take charge of his step-granddaughter, the beautiful and admired Nelly Custis (the late Mrs. Lewis, of Woodlawn), at the races and the race ball at Alexandria. They were sent there in the General's beautiful chariot, drawn by four splendid horses, escorted on horseback by the young lady's brother, the late George Washington Parke Custis, of Arlington.

Julia Maria Dickinson Tayloe
1799–1846

On the 8th of November, 1824, Mr. Tayloe was married, in Troy, New York, to Miss Julia Maria Dickinson, a young lady of charming manners, high culture, and an amiable temper . . . the only child of the Hon. John D. Dickinson. He represented the Rensselaer district in the United States House of Representatives from 1819 to 1823, and again from 1827 to 1831. . . .

After Charles Bird King Tayloe House, Lafayette Square

The life of a country gentleman was in every respect congenial to Mr. Tayloe's tastes and habits. His ancestors, for several generations, had been eminent among the landholders and planters of Virginia. While abroad, he had observed with a careful eye, as his journal shows, the agriculture of Great Britain, France, Germany, and Italy. He was also familiar with the modes of culture pursued in the best agricultural districts of his own country. As a country gentleman, he could indulge his fondness for the turf, inherited from the Taskers and the Ogles, as well as from the Tayloes of Mount Airy, and for the breeding of cattle, for which he had at Windsor a high reputation.

His wife, however, who had been accustomed from her early years to the pleasures and excitements of society, was not altogether contented with a life in the country, and at her request he erected the house in Washington on La Fayette Square, which subsequently became his permanent residence. This house was finished in 1828. . . ."

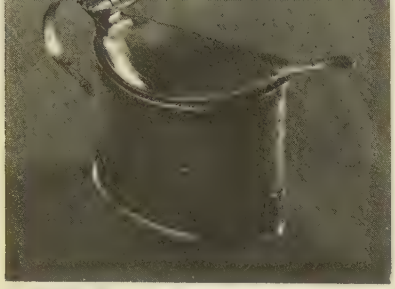
His father, Colonel John Tayloe, had died in 1828, and by his death terminated, to a certain extent, the splendid hospitalities of the Octagon which had covered a period of nearly thirty years. For nearly forty years more Mr. Ogle Tayloe dispensed in his house on La Fayette Square a liberal and elegant hospitality to the most distinguished foreigners, and to the most eminent Americans in public or private life, who visited Washington from year to year.

The winter of 1824-25, one of the most brilliant ever known in Washington, was spent by Mr. and Mrs. Tayloe at the Octagon. It was the period of the exciting election in the House of Representatives, when Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, and General Jackson were candidates for the Presidency. It was also signalized by the visit of the Marquis de La Fayette as the guest of Congress . . . distinguished persons in public and private life, were residents in Washington during that memorable winter, with the ladies of their households, forming together a galaxy of talent, beauty, and accomplishment which has never been surpassed, if equalled, at any subsequent period of Washington society. There were also among the Diplomatic Corps many persons of great distinction for high breeding, elegance of manners, and scientific and literary attainment. . . .

In the summer of 1837, Mr. Tayloe, accompanied by his wife, embarked for Europe. In Paris they were frequent guests of Baron Hyde de Neuville, in the Faubourg St. Germain, ex-minister to Charles the Tenth, and one of the most estimable and distinguished members of the *vielle cour*. . . . From France they travelled into Switzerland . . . then passed by way of the Rhine through Germany and Belgium, and thence crossed the Channel to England in which country many old friends accorded them a hearty welcome. . . . After an absence of more than a year they returned to America in the summer of 1838.

In the summer of 1846 a severe and unexpected blow fell upon Mr. Tayloe. His wife, with whom he had lived happily for more than 20 years, died suddenly on the 4th of July. Although Mrs. Tayloe had been an invalid for a long time, her medical advisors and friends never regarded her illness with serious apprehensions. Mrs. Tayloe left five children, two sons and three daughters, who by her death were thrown entirely upon the care of their father.

On the 17th of April, 1849, at the season of Easter, Mr. Tayloe was married in Troy, New York, to Miss Phoebe Warren, of that city, a lady for whom he had long entertained sentiments of the highest esteem, and whose regard for his children, growing out of her friendship for their mother, could not be doubted. By this marriage, Mr. Tayloe was rendered happy for the remainder of his days, and his friends again rejoiced around the relighted fires of his hospitable mansion, now rendered once more attractive by the presence of one who was in every respect the light of his household.



Octagon-owned English silver with Tayloe family crest. Mustard pot and spoon, 1791. The coffee pot, a gift to John Tayloe II's daughter, Elizabeth (1750-1796) on her marriage to Edward Lloyd IV of Wye House, Easton, Maryland. Their daughter, Mary, married Francis Scott Key. A descendant, Mrs. Richard Cutts, gave this family heirloom to the Octagon.

In the summer of 1855 the venerable mother of Mr. Tayloe died, at the advanced age of eighty-three, at the Octagon, in Washington City, where she had continued to reside after the death of Colonel Tayloe, in 1828. Mrs. Tayloe was the daughter of the last Governor Ogle, of Maryland, and spent the earlier days of her life in the refined and brilliant society of Annapolis. When a young lady, she visited the beautiful Nelly Custis at Mount Vernon, while residing with General Washington and his wife, and preserved in after-life a vivid recollection of the household and mode of living which prevailed there. Mrs. Tayloe was the last survivor of the ladies of the old school in Washington, of that class which had been trained in the manners and modes of thought which prevailed before and during the American Revolution, in the circles of the colonial aristocracy.

Ann Ogle Tayloe
1772–1855

In 1855 Mr. Tayloe was elected President of the Board of Trustees of the Washington Orphan Asylum, to succeed Mr. Corcoran, who had resigned the post.

On the formation of the 'Society of the Oldest Inhabitants' of Washington, Mr. Tayloe was elected its President, and held the office at the time of his death.

Mr. Tayloe was frequently solicited by his friends to accept a nomination for the Mayoralty of Washington, but he invariably declined the honor. This office was almost without an exception, in former days, filled by gentlemen of high character and superior talents, as Brent, Gales, Seaton, Force, and Weightman.

Tayloe remained in Washington during the Civil War, and his strict neutrality is reflected in his many letters to influential people on both sides. In 1860 he wrote a letter to Lincoln, enclosing it with a note to a friend in Springfield, saying: Mr. Lincoln, as we learn, is elected President. I trust he is not only conservative, intending to look to the interests of the whole country, as bound to do under his official oath on being inaugurated, but, to allay the feverish state of the Cotton States, that he will lose no time to make some public declaration of such intention. Otherwise, from my own advices, I do not know what may not ensue in the madness of the hour.

Put these remarks in the way of reaching Mr. Lincoln at once.

After the War, Tayloe sent a contribution to General Lee for suffering Virginians, *and in thanking him Lee wrote:* I am glad to recall the friendship of our fathers, and their resistance in their day to political fanaticism. There is surely no hereditary cause of separation between us.

In May 1867 Mr. and Mrs. Tayloe embarked for Europe on a long-planned tour. They were in England for the Derby and went on to the continent, visiting friends. He continued his voluminous correspondence and articles for racing magazines. He suddenly became ill in January 1868 in Rome and died within a few days, at the age of seventy-one. He is buried in Troy, New York.

The Tayloe house on Lafayette Square is number 32 Madison Place, in the chart opposite, from *Frank Leslie*'s *Popular Monthly, April 1891.* It was from this house that Tayloe recorded his view of his neighbors and his reminiscences of early Washington.

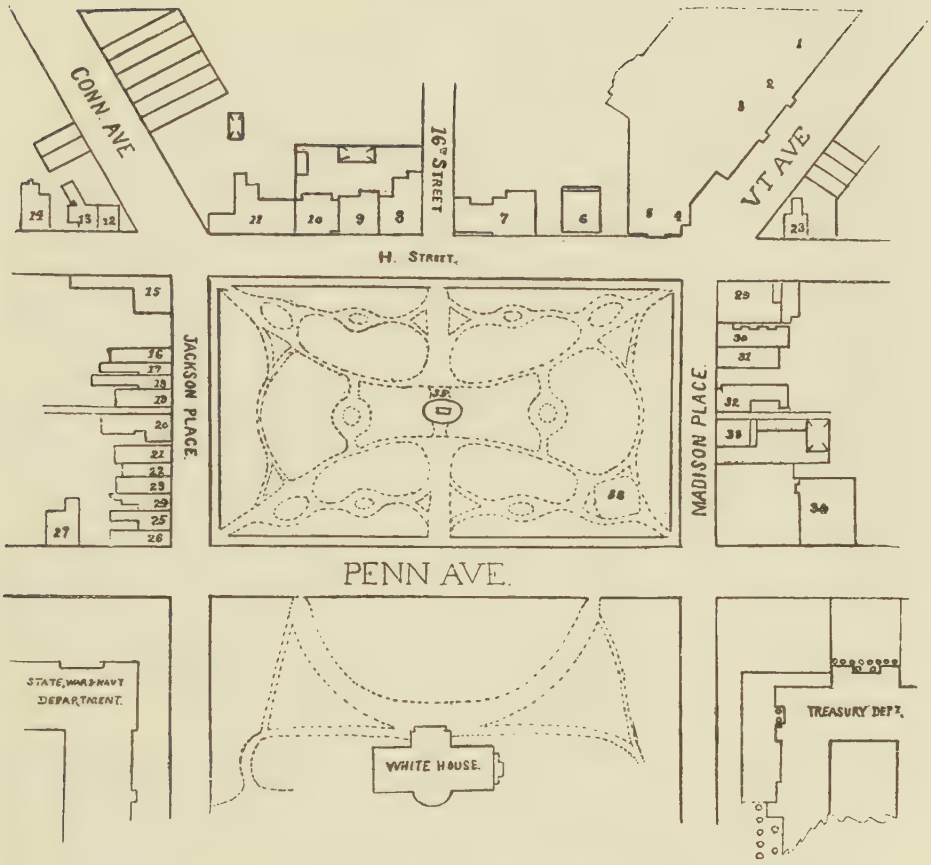
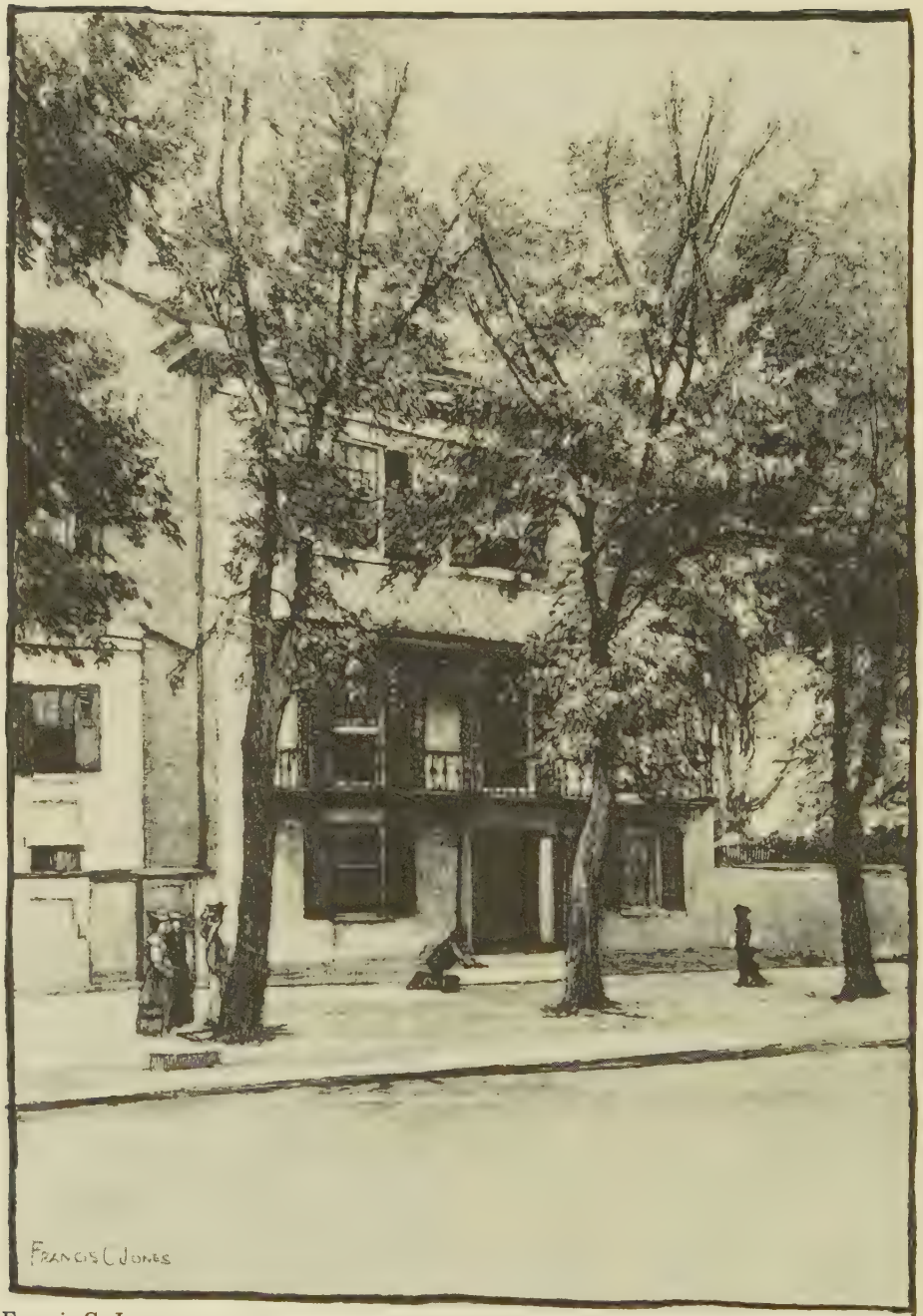


DIAGRAM OF LAFAYETTE PARK AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

KEY TO DIAGRAM.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 constitute what is now the Arlington Hotel. The following names indicate former or present residents:

1. Reverdy Johnson, Senator and Minister to England; James Buchanan and Benjamin Harrison, Presidents-elect; Patti; Kalakaua; Dom Pedro; the Prince of Wales.
2. William L. Marcy, Secretary of War and Secretary of State.
3. Lewis Cass, Secretary of War and Secretary of State.
4. Charles Sumner.
5. Senator Pomeroy.
6. Lord Ashburton; Sir Bulwer Lytton and his son, "Owen Meredith."
7. St. John's Church, Episcopal, built for Madison, and attended by all the Presidents prior to Lincoln.
8. John Hay, poet and historian.
9. Henry Adams, author, grandson of John Quincy Adams.
10. Thomas Ritchie, President Polk's editor; Senator John Slidell; Walter A. Wood, inventor and manufacturer (present occupant).
11. Daniel Webster; Mr. Montholon, French Minister; William Corcoran, philanthropist (last occupant).
12. Admiral Shubrick (last occupant).
13. Judge Bancroft Davis, Secretary of State and Minister to Germany (present occupant).
14. George Bancroft (last occupant).
15. Commodore Stephen Decatur; Henry Clay; Martin Van Buren, Vice-president; John Gadsby; Edward Livingston, Secretary of State; George M. Dallas, Vice-president; General Beale (present occupant).
16. William L. Marcy, Secretary of War; Representative Newberry, of Michigan; James G. Blaine, Senator; Representative William L. Scott (present occupant).
17. Charles C. Glover, banker (present occupant).
18. William Murtagh, editor; General Frank Steele (present occupant).
19. Major-general J. G. Parke.
20. Commodore Stockton; Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury under Van Buren; John C. Spencer, Secretary of the Treasury under Tyler; General Daniel E. Sickles; Vice-president Schuyler Colfax; Washington McLean, editor Cincinnati *Enquirer*.
21. Mrs. James Blair, daughter of General Jesup.
22. Senator Gorman; George F. Appleby (present occupant).
23. Admiral Aiden; Major Henry R. Rathbone; General N. L. Anderson; Senator Dolph (present occupant).
24. Mrs. Green, daughter of Admiral Dahlgren; Colonel William H. Philip.
25. John McLean, Cincinnati *Enquirer*.
26. Peter Parker, Minister to China; Bureau of American Republics, William E. Curtis, chief.
27. Francis P. Blair; Montgomery Blair; Thomas Ewing, Secretary of the Treasury. (General W. T. Sherman was married in this house.)
28. Rev. Smith Pyne; Commodore Morris.
29. James Madison; Mrs. Dolly Madison; Commodore Wilkes; General McClellan; Cosmos Club (present occupant).
30. William Windom, Secretary of the Treasury.
31. Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll.
32. Ogle Tayloe; Admiral Paulding; Senator Don. Cameron (present occupant).
33. Henry Clay, Secretary of State; John C. Calhoun, Vice-president; Washington Club; William H. Seward, Secretary of State; James G. Blaine, Secretary of State. (Key was shot by Sickles in front of this house.)
34. United States Attorney-general's office.
35. Jackson's equestrian statue.
36. Lafeyette's monument.



Francis C. Jones

National Trust for Historic Preservation

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE HOUSE, ON THE EAST SIDE OF LAFAYETTE SQUARE

OUR

NEIGHBORS ON LA FAYETTE SQUARE.

I WRITE of neighbors, and of anecdotes connected with them, for the gratification of my family. It is hardly necessary to inform them that their paternal ancestors lived in the Northern Neck of Virginia, between the Rappahannock and the Potomac, the native land of Washington, the Lees, Madison, and Monroe, until my father came to Washington City, in 1800, and took possession of his new house, the Octagon, at the intersection of New York Avenue and Eighteenth Street. He had been induced by his hereditary friend, General Washington, to erect his town house in the Federal city, having previously had an eye to Philadelphia. Friendly to the object, and taking a lively interest in the erection of a house to be greatly superior to any other private mansion in Washington, the General frequently watched the progress of the work, from his horse, when he visited the embryo city, in 1798 and 1799, as reported to me by the late Charles Coltman, a wealthy citizen, recently deceased, and then a boy working with his father, a brickmason, upon the house. General Washington had himself erected a town house on Capitol Hill, which is still standing, and is now the property of Admiral Wilkes.

The Tayloes.

The Octagon.

The site of the Octagon was bought by my father from his friend, Mr. Stoddert, the first Secretary of the Navy, and a relative of my mother.

Washington in 1801.

I came to Washington in 1801, and remember it literally as *rus in urbe*, containing but a few thousand inhabitants, scattered about in single houses, apart from each other, or in occasional groups, chiefly in the vicinity of the public buildings, from Georgetown to the Navy Yard. There was scarcely any pavement, except in front of detached houses. The distinguished John Cotton Smith told me that when he was a Senator from Connecticut, he attended President Adams's first levée in Washington, in 1801, and that the members of Congress living, like himself, on Capitol Hill, found it necessary to send to Baltimore for hackney coaches to convey them to the President's house; and to avoid the swamp of Pennsylvania Avenue, they had to travel along F Street and the high grounds adjacent. (During Mr. Monroe's administration, I have seen carriages mired in Pennsylvania Avenue, even then almost impassable, the city at that time having less than ten thousand inhabitants.) During

The Departments.

my childhood, the Navy, War, and Post-Office Departments, and the City Post-Office, were in one building, on the site of the present War Department, that was sunk to the eaves in a hollow prepared for it, to make it on a level, as now, with the State and Treasury Departments. Between the latter and the Capitol (its two wings only erected) there was but one building on Pennsylvania Avenue, then, as now, an apothecary's shop, at the corner of Ninth Street, a small frame building, built for public convenience by Dr. Bullus, of the Navy, who was stationed at the Navy Yard.

La Fayette Square.

To La Fayette Square and its residents I will now direct my observations. As late as the war of 1812, I recollect the entire

The Baroness Hyde de Neuville New York Public Library, Phelps-Stokes Collection

THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1820 AND, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, TREASURY, WAR AND NAVY

The Baroness, wife of the French Minister, lived at Decatur House. Her many sketches of early Washington are an important record of the city in the 1820s.

Self portrait New York Historical Society

ANNE MARGUERITE HENRIETTE ROUILLE DE MARIGNY BARONESS HYDE DE NEUVILLE c.1779-1849

The Baroness Hyde de Neuville

Colonial Williamsburg, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Collection

DANSE MILITAIRE DES SAUVAGES DEVANT LE PRESIDENT J. MONROE, 1821

square, from Fifteenth to Seventeenth Street, as a neglected common, entirely denuded of trees. The militia musters of the period were held therein. There was then but one house on Pennsylvania Avenue between this common and the "Seven Buildings," a small frame, still standing. The only houses north of the common were, the house, since removed, on the site of Mr. Riggs's present residence, then occupied by Mr. Simmons, a clerk in the War Department, and the present old rickety house at the northeast angle of the Square on Vermont Avenue, which has been successively owned by Messrs. Corcoran and Riggs, the last the present owner. Mr. Simmons lost his office for a piece of waggery. On the invasion of Washington, in 1814, he ascertained that the British troops were in the village of Bladensburg, and on his return he met President Madison and Mr. Rush, the Attorney-General, on horseback, on their way to that place. He told them of their danger, and, as he reported to a committee of Congress, "they turned so hastily and moved off so rapidly that Mr. Rush lost his hat." "No need for so much hurry," said Mr. Simmons; "you have time to pick up your hat, Mr. Rush." But Mr. Rush was brave and patriotic. I knew him well, having read law with him, and having accompanied him to England, in 1817, when he went there as Minister, a position which gave me great advantages in society. Mr. Rush made a most favorable impression at the British Court. On his presentation, the Prince Regent, afterwards George the Fourth, by way of compliment, exclaimed with astonishment, "Never before in Europe!" and repeated the remark, as much as to say, "Where did he get his good manners?" for which Mr. Rush was remarkable. He was always very kind to me.

Mr. Simmons.

Mr. Rush.

George IV.

Another wag, Mr. Dinsmore, Collector at Mobile, lost his office soon afterward for exercising his wit on one in authority.

There was a question as to the establishment of custom-houses on navigable waters. In a circular from Mr. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury, was an inquiry, "How far does the Tombigbee run up?" Mr. Dinsmore's reply was, "The Tombigbee does not run up at all; it runs down." The consequence was, a prompt dismissal from office.

Mr. Crawford.

Mr. Moore.

Mr. Moore, a Federalist, and Collector at Alexandria, secured his continuance in office by a happy witticism at Mr. Jefferson's table. Soon after the inauguration of Mr. Jefferson, it was reported he would introduce a proscriptive policy, and Mr. Moore called one day at the Executive Mansion to ascertain his fate, while the President and the members of his Cabinet were sipping their wine after dinner. He was shown into the dining-room, and Mr. Madison politely vacated his chair next the President, and gave it to Mr. Moore. The President inquired the news. Said Moore, "There has been a *recent* event which, when known, will astonish the whole nation." "What is it?" anxiously asked Mr. Jefferson. "That Mr. Madison has vacated his place, and that *I* occupy it," replied Moore. This *bon mot* put Mr. Moore on velvet; he amused the President and his company, and retained his office.

Revenons à nos moutons. While the present La Fayette Square was a waste, about 1798–99, at its west angle was an oval-shaped race-course, which crossed the avenue at Seventeenth and also at Twentieth Street, the "running-in stretch" and judges' stand being near the residence of Mr. William T. Carroll, on F Street. On this course was run, in 1798, a celebrated match race, four mile heats, for five hundred guineas, between my father and General Charles Ridgeley, of Hampton, a sort of sectional conflict between Virginia and Maryland horses. The Virginia horse won.

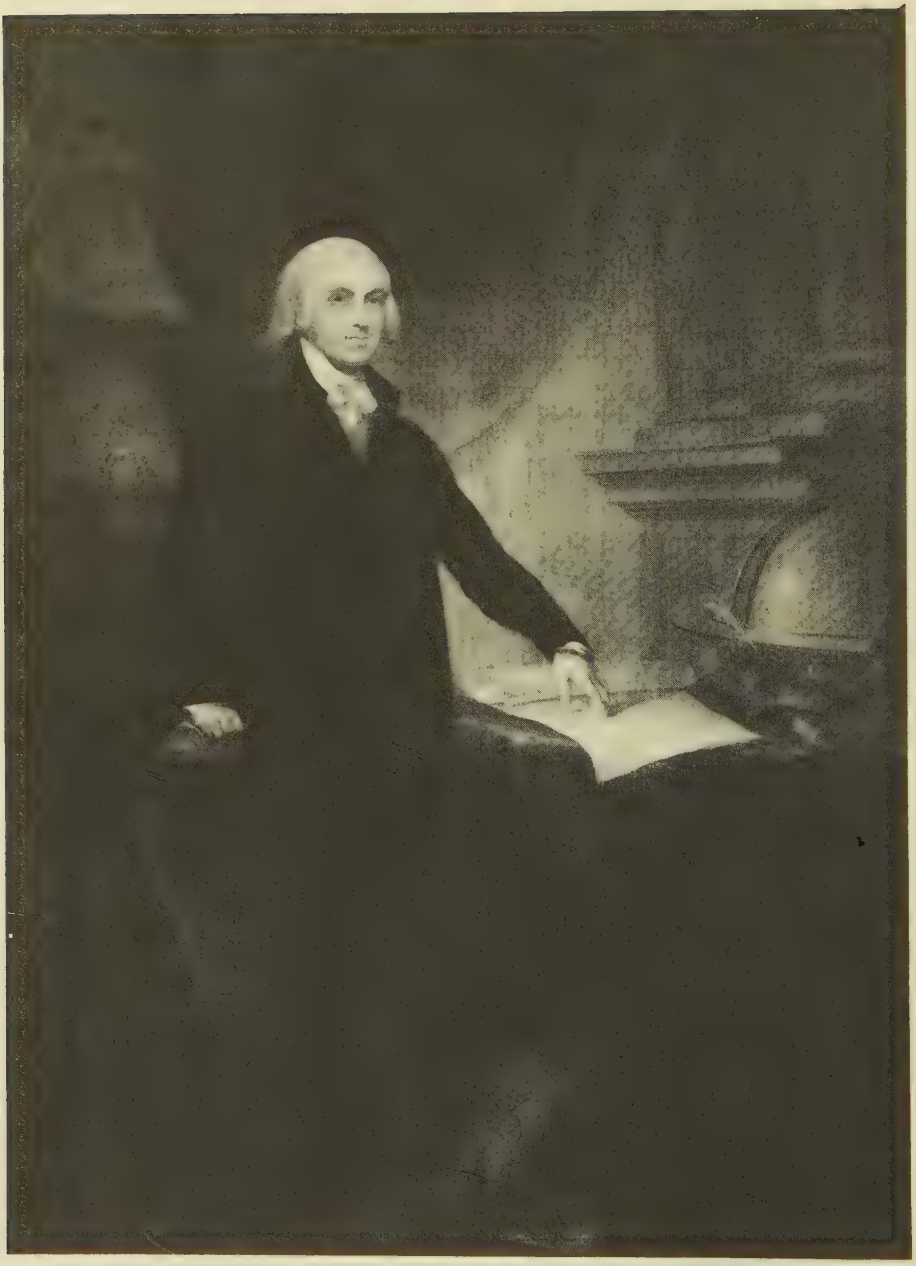
Match race.

The President's house was the first mansion erected near the Square. In 1800–1, Mr. Adams was its first occupant, in the last winter of his administration, on the removal of the seat of government from Philadelphia. Of the discomforts of the house and of the city of Washington, Mrs. Adams has given a graphic description in her published biography. John Adams.

Mr. Jefferson succeeded Mr. Adams, in 1801, in the occupancy of the Executive Mansion. During his administration, and that of his successor, Mr. Madison, a term of sixteen years, the house and grounds remained in an unfinished and neglected state, the latter wholly unimproved, and inclosed only by a post and rail fence of wood, which assimilated with the democratic simplicity of the day. Mr. Jefferson was equally simple in his dress and equipage. His appearance was in every way plain, his hair reddish, his face freckled. He was a good horseman, and usually rode on horseback. On the day of Mr. Madison's inauguration, the late Mr. Parke Custis, a Federalist, told me that while returning from the ceremony at the Capitol, on horseback, he met the ex-President, entirely alone, and they rode down Pennsylvania Avenue together. Similar neglect of retiring Presidents I have often witnessed. Mr. Jefferson.

Mr. Jefferson was sprightly and intellectual, with much attractive information on a variety of subjects. He was highly accomplished in the ways of society, and gave delightful *recherché* dinners, with French cookery, French wines, and everything French, well knowing how to select his company.

Mr. Madison appropriately did the honors of the White House, until expelled from it by the British invasion, in August, 1814. The Capitol, the President's house, the public buildings, and a few private houses, were burned by the "vandals," as they were termed, under Admiral Sir George Cockburn and General Mr. Madison.



Thomas Sully

Corcoran Gallery of Art

PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON

Wm. Edmund Barrett Photograph

THE OCTAGON "TREATY OF GHENT" ROOM

Col. Tayloe.

Ross, who, within a month, was killed on the repulse of the British at North Point, near Baltimore. At this time my father was in command of the cavalry of the District. Superseded by an officer of the regular army, he was sent to Virginia to bring up some of its militia in season to aid in the defence of the Capital. His efforts proved ineffectual, and he was returning home, when he met my mother on the road, making her way to his place, Neabsco, near Dumfries, in Virginia. She had vacated the Octagon, and induced Mons. Serrurier, the French Minister, to occupy it, with a view to its protection. After going to Virginia, my parents divided their time between Neabsco and Mount Airy, until they reoccupied their own house, on its being vacated by Mr. Madison, after the war. For the nonce, until another house could be prepared for him, Mr. Madison was the occupant of the Octagon, and there he signed the treaty of peace with Great Britain, in the circular room over the entrance-hall, in February, 1815. The table at which he signed it is now the property of my brother, Edward T. Tayloe, of Powhatan Hill, Virginia. Mr. Madison next occupied the eastern house of the "Seven Buildings," of which the British Minister, Mr.

Aug. J. Foster.

Foster, was the occupant till the war, and remained there for the residue of his Presidential term. Mr. Madison was small in stature, but in every respect a well-bred Virginia gentleman, very hospitable and liberal in his entertainments, with great powers of conversation, replete with anecdotes and well constituted to shine in society. He dressed in the old style, wore powder, small-clothes, and buckles, and was unostentatious in his manners and mode of life. In entertaining general society, Mr. Madison was greatly aided by his wife, who, though not highly cultivated, was a woman of wonderful tact. No one was more amiable or more generally beloved. When a member of Congress, in Phila-

delphia, Mr. Madison boarded in the house of Mr. Payne, the father of Mrs. Madison, at that time the beautiful widow Todd. Colonel Burr boarded in the same house. Mr. Madison fell in love with Mrs. Todd, and one day sent her a book to read, and requested her opinion of it. Mrs. Todd asked Colonel Burr to write a note for her in reply, which he did, and soon after Mr. Madison offered himself to the handsome and *intellectual* widow, and was accepted. She made Mr. Madison a good wife, her extreme amiability and tact adapting her to the times; it being beyond dispute that no lady has ever done the honors of the White House so gracefully or acceptably as Mrs. Madison. She never forgot a face or a name.

Mrs. Madison.

As soon as I became of suitable age I had the honor of dining with Mr. Madison, on which occasion I met very distinguished persons,—Sir Charles and Lady Bagot, Rufus King, Governor Barbour, Mr. Forsyth, of Georgia, and others of equal fame. Twice I was Mr. Madison's guest at his country residence, Montpelier, in Virginia. I thought he appeared to better advantage in retirement.

Mr. Madison.

Mr. Monroe, the next occupant of the White House, I also visited, when ex-President, at his residence, near Aldie, in Virginia. He appeared to disadvantage when compared with Mr. Madison. He was plain and awkward, and frequently at a loss for conversation. His manner was kind and unpretending. Mrs. Monroe, a Kortwright, of New York, was handsome and graceful, but so dignified and distant as to be thought haughty. While in the White House, Mrs. Monroe was much out of health. Her daughter, Mrs. George Hay, when Mr. Monroe was Minister to the French Directory, attended Madame Campan's famous boarding-school, and was there the intimate friend of Hortense Beauharnais, the daughter of Josephine, and mother of the

Mr. Monroe.

Mrs. Geo. Hay.

present Emperor of France. When assailed by a mob, Colonel Monroe went to the Tuileries, and tendered his sword to the Directory. Subsequently, he attended a breakfast given to Bonaparte by the Directory, on his appointment to the Army of Italy, in 1796. When Bonaparte retired, Carnot asked Colonel Monroe what he thought of the young general. "He has the talent of silence," was the answer. "That man," said Carnot, "is destined to pull down and rear up empires."

Carnot.

On the completion of Monroe's second term, "the era of good feeling," sustained by a very able Cabinet, Adams, Crawford, Calhoun, Thompson, and McLean, the latter, continued as Postmaster-General under Mr. Adams, gave in honor of the occasion a distinguished dinner. General McNeil, of New Hampshire, who had won laurels in the war with England as an officer of lower grade, to make himself agreeable to the lady next him at table, remarked, "We have a great improvement now in the White House." "In what way?" she asked. "Mr. Adams is so superior in talents to Mr. Monroe, and Mrs. Adams, for her social qualities, equally so to Mrs. Monroe." "I am sorry, sir, you have such an unfavorable opinion of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe." The lady was Mrs. Hay, who was highly intellectual and accomplished, as well as a wit.

General McNeil.

A mistake.

At a Presidential dinner, an accomplished statesman and very amiable gentleman was so unfortunate as to ask the distinguished General J., "Who is the young lady opposite, robed in white, whose bosom is rather nude?" "My daughter, sir," was the curt and haughty reply. "I did not mean her, but the lady beyond," unfortunately an old lady in *black*, up to the throat! No more conversation between them, nor probably between General McNeil and Mrs. Hay.

Mr. Monroe was brave, and had other high qualities, but in

his address was so unprepossessing, the surprise was how he got his advancement. He was not quick, but he had good judgment and great political tact, and has left a high reputation for successful statesmanship with the "Monroe Doctrine," suggested by George Canning to Mr. Adams, and by him adopted, to counteract the Holy Alliance in regard to Mexico and South America. Monroe Doctrine.

During the last year of Mr. Monroe's administration, the "Nation's Guest," La Fayette, visited this country, and had a most enthusiastic reception everywhere, resuscitating a military feeling that led, perhaps, to the election of General Jackson to the Presidency, whose sole claim was based on the sword. At dinners given to La Fayette, capital toasts were produced. From Mr. Adams, "The heroes of the Revolution: like the books of the Sibyl, they increase in value as they diminish in number." Mr. Everett's, "He reads his history in a nation's eyes." La Fayette.

During the early part of Mr. Monroe's administration, I spent several years abroad, and had the opportunity of seeing, and sometimes of being introduced to, some of the most distinguished men of a great era in Europe, soon after Waterloo, having been at the English, French, Tuscan, and Roman Courts. After Waterloo.

In respect to La Fayette Square, there is a legend that in the plan of the city the whole square, from Fifteenth to Seventeenth Street, as far as H Street, was embraced in the Presidential grounds, but under the direction of Mr. Jefferson, as consistent with his notions of republican simplicity, and of the abode of a President of the Republic, it was ordered that the Presidential grounds be reduced to their present dimensions, and the street made from Fifteenth to Seventeenth Streets, cutting off the present La Fayette Square, by which arrangement the original

proprietors became possessed of the lots east and west of it, facing the Square.

St. John's Church. On the conclusion of the war of 1812, St. John's Church was the first building erected on the Square, to which my father was by far the largest contributor, and to which he presented the massive church service of silver which formerly belonged to the old church of Lunenburg, in Richmond County, Virginia. Rev. Mr. Wilmer, of Alexandria, while holding the pastoral charge of his own church, was the first rector of St. John's, and was succeeded, after the lapse of a few months, by his assistant, Rev.

Dr. Hawley. Dr. Hawley, rector for twenty-five years, until his death. He was a good man, and greatly devoted to his charge. Dr. Hawley was somewhat of an original. In the war of 1812, he was captain of a company of volunteers, chiefly theological students, raised, as was said, solely for the defence of the city of New York. On being ordered to the Niagara frontier with his company, the captain refused to go. To avoid a court-martial, he was permitted to resign. In derision, when rector, some called him "Captain Hawley." Commodore Decatur would not attend his church "because he refused to obey orders." Dr. Hawley was among the last who wore smallclothes and buckles.

Decatur. The first private house erected on the Square has been known as the Decatur house. It was built by Commodore Decatur, in 1819, almost simultaneously with St. John's Church, it being then contemplated by his associates on the Navy Board, Commodores Rodgers and Ridgeley, to build respectively a somewhat similar house on other angles of the Square. Commodore and Mrs. Decatur lived comparatively in splendor, and were much courted for their different high qualities,—Decatur, the Bayard of the Navy, for his renown; his wife for her accomplishments and intellectual attractions.

Benjamin Henry Latrobe — St. John's Church, Lafayette Square

Mr. Tayloe was for many years a prominent and efficient member of the vestry of St. John's Church in Washington, of which his father was one of the founders.

Above: St. John's Church, at left, and the White House burned by the British in 1814.

Below: St. John's Church sketched in 1822, with steeple added to Latrobe's design. The Cutts-Madison house, the first one built on the Square's east side, housed the Cosmos Club from 1886 to 1952. The Club expanded to the south, in 1917 acquiring the Tayloe house.

The Baroness Hyde de Neuville — St. John's Church, Lafayette Square

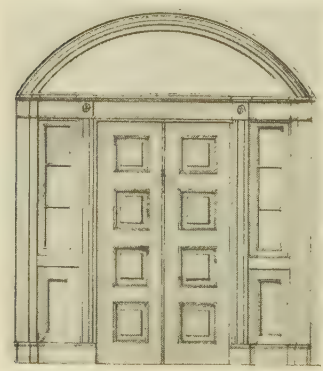
E. Vaile

National Trust for Historic Preservation

DECATUR HOUSE

Latrobe designs stand on three sides of Lafayette Square: Decatur House, the South Portico of the White House and St. John's. His other work in the city included public and private buildings, and important parts of the Capitol.

DECATUR HOUSE FRONT DOOR



Benjamin Henry Latrobe

Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Mrs. Decatur was the natural daughter of Mr. Wheeler, an eminent merchant of Norfolk, and the proprietor of ironworks at Elk Ridge Landing, in Maryland, where Mrs. Decatur was born, her mother an obscure woman of that place. Miss Wheeler had the advantage of a fine education, and was at the head of her school. Among her schoolmates were the three beautiful Misses Caton, granddaughters of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, with whom she was a great favorite. Miss Wheeler, on leaving school, was the reigning belle of Norfolk, and greatly admired in Baltimore, which she often visited as the guest of the Misses Caton. Jerome Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon, then Emperor of France, paid his addresses to her, which she rejected by the advice of her friend, the Hon. Robert G. Harper, who accurately predicted, as the subsequent marriage of Jerome with Miss Patterson proved, that the marriage, if it occurred, would be repudiated by the Emperor, who was ambitious of allying his family with the royal families of Europe. Mrs. Decatur. Robt. G. Harper.

Mr. Harper, who detested the character of Madame Bonaparte, the American wife of Jerome, told me that she invented the story that her husband had only intended to make Miss Wheeler his mistress. On an explanation being asked by General D'Evreaux, of South American fame, Jerome denied that he had given any authority for such a statement, and that it was wholly without foundation. Mme. Bonaparte.

It was reported that Miss Wheeler made advances to Commodore Decatur, then engaged to another lady. His marriage has been regarded as a blot on his escutcheon. Mr. Wheeler, when rich, offered property to Commodore Decatur, which he declined. By his failure he became bankrupt, and died in penury, some years after the death of Decatur. Mr. Wheeler.

For a year or more after her husband's death, Mrs. Decatur

lived in great style, and at much expense, making a great display, at her *recherché* dinners, of the Decatur plate. It was said by some persons that she had chiefly in view a marriage with the present renowned *diplomat*, Lord Stratford de Redclyffe,

Stratford Canning

then Mr. Stratford Canning, H. B. M. Minister to this country. Late in life, Mrs. Decatur became a Roman Catholic, with a view, as the expectant heirs of that gentleman thought, to a marriage with Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, then far advanced in years and verging on senility, but a great admirer of Mrs. Decatur.

Mrs. Decatur was a very accomplished woman, with fine manners and great powers of conversation. The last years of her life were spent in Georgetown, and she died in the convent there in 1855.

Commodore Decatur, a special favorite of President Monroe and his Cabinet, took up his residence in the house erected by him on La Fayette Square, in 1819, a short time before his

Duel.

death. The duel between him and Commodore Barron was caused by a free conversation at Commodore Decatur's table about Barron, in which the latter was condemned for not returning from abroad to take his share in the war. This conversation was reported by one of the guests of Commodore Decatur to

Com. Elliot.

Commodore Elliot, and by him to Commodore Barron, which led to an angry correspondence, and finally to the challenge by Commodore Barron. It has been said that Elliot used Barron as an instrument wherewith to wreak his own vengeance on Decatur for being the friend of Commodore Perry, and for holding in his hands a correspondence intrusted to him by the latter and reflecting severely upon Elliot. It has also been stated that on his deathbed, Decatur had the correspondence brought to him, and intrusted it to his wife. Commodore Dale told me he

had tried to put Decatur right with regard to Barron, telling him that Barron was a man of honor and no coward, and that he feared Decatur's free remarks about Barron might lead to a difficulty which might as well be avoided. From my own observation, I am sure Commodore Decatur foresaw the hazard of his position. The day preceding the duel I met Commodore Decatur. He looked ill, and seemed abstracted. The Saturday before, I was at a party at his house. He seemed out of spirits, and I was particularly struck with the solemnity of his manner and his devotion to his wife and her music, as she played upon the harp, the company forming a semicircle in front of her, Decatur himself, in uniform, the centre of the semicircle, his eyes riveted upon his wife. The party was given to Mrs. Gouverneur, the daughter of President Monroe, then a bride. The Misses Douglas, of New York, afterwards Mrs. Cruger and Mrs. James Monroe, were among the guests. (Their grandfather, a Scotchman, was private tutor to President Monroe when a boy.) The next week there was to have been a similar party at Commodore Porter's. In the course of the evening, Decatur said to Porter, his confidant, "I may spoil your party."

Barron.

Mrs. Gouverneur,

Commodore Morris told me he was invited by Decatur to be his second. He declined, but offered his services for an accommodation, which, he told Commodore Decatur, *ought* to be made.

Morris.

Late in the afternoon of the following Tuesday I met Commodore Decatur at the end of the pavement in front of what is now Willard's Hotel, and was again impressed by his solemn manner. On passing me, he accosted Commodore Macdonough, and they paced the pavement together, arm-in-arm. I have since heard the latter has said he "knew nothing of the contemplated duel, or he would have prevented it." Commodore Stewart made the same remark to me in regard to himself. The

Macdonough.

Winterthur Museum

STEPHEN DECATUR
1779-1820

Lossings' Field Guide to the War of 1812 National Trust for Historic Preservation

Dueling ground near Bladensburg

Attributed to Gilbert Stuart — National Trust for Historic Preservation

SUSAN WHEELER DECATUR
1776-1860

Some years after the Commodore's death, Susan Decatur moved to the little house at left below, on P Street, just outside the walls of Georgetown University. She attended Holy Trinity Church and the University chapels.

Georgetown University Archives

following morning, about eleven o'clock, I met Commodore Porter near the Capitol, riding at full gallop, on his return from the fatal field, in advance of all others. Decatur had fallen, and died in the basement-room of his house, to the left of the hall, on the evening of the day of the duel. On the following Saturday his funeral was attended by nearly the whole population, and, as it were, "by Congress assembled." John Randolph, of Roanoke, somewhat demented at that time, was very conspicuous, and talked wildly of his readiness to resent an insult in the same way. The remains were deposited in the family vault at Kalorama, then the property of Decatur's most intimate friend, Colonel Bomford, of the Ordnance Corps. Colonel Bomford married a niece of Mrs. Barlow, the wife of Joel Barlow, poet and diplomatist, and bought Kalorama of Mr. Barlow's heirs. Mr. Barlow had purchased the estate from the heirs of my uncle, William Augustine Washington, a nephew of the illustrious general.

Com. Porter.

Col. Bomford.

Mrs. Decatur.

Mrs. Decatur was so paralyzed by her husband's condition after the duel that she never considered herself able to see him. After his death, she closed her doors for months, and refused to be comforted. Then she took apartments at Kalorama, at first received a few friends, and soon afterward commenced giving weekly the most expensive dinners.

This was the period of the best society in Washington, the first term of Mr. Monroe's administration, from 1817 to 1821. Gentlemen of high character and high breeding abounded in both Houses of Congress, and many of the foreign ministers were distinguished for high birth, talent, learning, and elegant manners. The Baron Hyde de Neuville admirably represented the French aristocracy of the old *regime*, as Mr. Stratford Canning, now Lord Stratford de Redclyffe, did that of Great Britain. On one occasion these gentlemen attended, in diplomatic costume,

Hyde de Neuville and Stratford Canning.

with swords by their sides, a dinner given by President Monroe to the diplomatic corps. They sat on either side of the President. During the dinner the British Minister unintentionally wounded the feelings of the representative of France by stating to the President that France had not done her part toward the suppression of the slave trade. As they were passing through the grand hall, on leaving the house, the two ministers came in contact, and De Neuville intimated to Canning, in French, that he felt insulted. An animated conversation ensued, both gentlemen touching their swords. To stop the altercation, the French Consul-General, Mons. Petre, interposed, and was pushed aside by his Minister, who exclaimed, "*Vous etes simplement, Consul-Général; je suis le Ministre de France.*" Canning looked defiance, bowed, and retired. John Randolph was present, and puzzled to know what it all meant—a quarrel, and he not to have a hand or a word in it. The words had been spoken too fast for him to comprehend them. All he knew was it was a quarrel, and that both gentlemen were greatly excited. The next day the matter was amicably arranged.

An altercation.

John Randolph.

It may be said of Decatur that he was brave, chivalrous, and patriotic, but so avaricious of fame as not always to be generous and just, as was manifested in his conduct toward Barron on the field of their encounter at Bladensburg. When mortally wounded, and Barron also wounded and doubtful of his own case, explanations took place. "Why," asked Decatur of Barron, "did you not return to America, when the war broke out?" "I had not the means," replied Barron. "Why did you not inform me of your situation?" said Decatur; "I would gladly have furnished you with the requisite funds."

Com. Decatur.

Barron told my father he would make no explanation under insult.

The duel created a profound sensation in the community. At first great indignation was felt, especially by President Monroe and his Cabinet, toward Barron, but in the sequel Decatur was very generally condemned.

Decatur was eminently patriotic, as shown by his celebrated toast, "My country: may she be always in the right—but my country, right or wrong!"

Mr. Lacock.

When General Jackson threatened to go to the Senate-chamber, and there cut off the ears of Senator Lacock, of Pennsylvania, for words spoken in debate, reflecting upon his conduct in the Seminole War, Decatur remonstrated with him, and obtaining no satisfactory response, said, "If you do, General, you will have to pass over my dead body." The attempt was not made by Jackson. If successful, it would have been a worse case than that of Sumner, in 1856, and might have saved the country from the disastrous consequences of Jacksonism.

Baron Tuyl.

On Mrs. Decatur's removal from her house, she rented it to the newly-arrived Russian Minister, Baron Tuyl, a general in the Imperial service, who lived in seclusion, a martyr to the gout. But still he was an epicure, and established his fame for the excellence of his dinners. He said, "Washington, with its venison, wild turkeys, canvas-backs, oysters, terrapins, &c., furnished better viands than Paris, and only wanted cooks." On his leaving Washington, about the commencement of the administration of Mr. John Quincy Adams, Mr. Clay, Secretary of State, became his successor in the Decatur house. He added to its dignity, and sustained that of his official position. His furniture was handsome. At his sale of it, on his retirement from office, in 1830 (as I was then about going to housekeeping in my house on the Square), I bought, as a reminiscence, the centre-table and the card-tables of the drawing-room. The owner

Henry Clay.

of some other relics of the kind, I will here refer to them. I am now writing on the card-table of General Washington. I have the drawing-room chairs of Alexander Hamilton, and his portable escritoire of the Revolution; some Sèvres plates bought at Mrs. Madison's sale, and previously owned by the Empress Josephine and Queen Marie Antoinette—one of them I presented to Lord Napier. I have a cane which belonged to Napoleon the First, given by him to General Lallemand, and by him to his friend Roberjeau, who presented it to Mr. Grelaud, of Philadelphia, who, at his death, bequeathed it as his sole estate to his physician, Dr. Mütter, by whom it was presented to my wife. In Paris, in 1837, I bought a Madonna, by Carlo Dolce, which had been owned by Napoleon, Lucien, and the Duchess de Berri, taken by the former from the Pitti Palace, in Florence. Relics.

Mr. Van Buren succeeded Mr. Clay as Secretary of State, and also as the tenant of the Decatur house. He was fond of show, and was not outdone by Mr. Clay in the style of his entertainments, which were very handsome while he was Secretary of State.- Mr. Van Buren.

I recollect that one day dining with Mr. Van Buren, when Secretary of State, New York and South Carolina being then in full accord in their support of General Jackson and his Democracy, I was seated next to the eloquent General Hayne, of South Carolina, who inquired of me, a Whig, rather triumphantly, "Why don't the Opposition show fight?" He little understood at that time the "lineal heir" was not "succeeding." He spoke also of the greater corruption of the North through the bribes of office, though not in other respects more accessible to bribery than the South. Robert Y. Hayne.

Mr. Van Buren's great intrigue at this period was his supplanting Mr. Calhoun with General Jackson, by warmly espous-

Thomas Sinclair, lithographer

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs

CLARK MILLS' STATUE OF PRESIDENT JACKSON WAS PLACED IN THE CENTER OF LAFAYETTE SQUARE IN 1853

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs

When Andrew Jackson's Secretary of War, John Eaton, married the innkeeper's daughter Peggy O'Neill, all Washington took sides. The President was enraged by the social slights and snubs which the Old Guard directed toward his protegée, and the controversy is credited with breaking up the Cabinet. The presentation of Mme. Celeste, a French danseuse, *implies another such source of scandal.*

Mrs. Eaton.

ing the cause of Mrs. Eaton. It was the darling object of the General to place Mrs. Eaton at the head of society in Washington. This was resisted by the ladies of his own family, and the wives of his Cabinet ministers, and by other of his most intimate friends. Mrs. Calhoun and Mrs. McLane, when the husband of the latter was appointed to the English mission, merely left cards for her. But Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Buchanan supported her cause as warmly as their natures would permit, and gave to her in society all the support in their power. Not only that, Mr. Van Buren made an attempt, though an unsuccessful one, to give her the support of the diplomatic corps. A grand ball was given by the Russian Minister, Baron Krudener. Mr. Van Buren selected Mrs. Eaton to hand her to the supper-table. Mr. Eaton, then Secretary of War, was assigned

Mme. Huygens.

to Madame Huygens, wife of the Minister from the Netherlands, but she had "no appetite," and declined the honor. On another occasion, when Mrs. Eaton tendered her hand, her own was under her little apron, then a fashionable article of dress, and a convenient one for Madame Huygens. These rebuffs, and the bickerings they caused, broke up the Cabinet. Mr. Van Buren

The Livingstons.

accepted the English mission, and Edward Livingston, of Louisiana, the accomplished statesman and able jurist, became his successor, and the tenant of the Decatur mansion. His beautiful wife and daughter made a great impression in those days, and especially the unequalled toilette of the latter. Nothing could be more *recherché* and elegant. Miss Cora Livingston was accomplished and amiable, and became the wife of Mr. Barton, Secretary of Legation at Paris, when Mr. Livingston was our Minister to France.

I will now advert to the occupants of the White House in this and the preceding administration.

John Q. Adams.

Mr. John Quincy Adams's abilities and statesmanlike qualities were beyond dispute, and to the great benefit and honor of the country he carried on, as President, the policy inaugurated, perhaps by himself, in the preceding term. Although of a cold and unprepossessing exterior, and only appearing well in conversation when excited to it by others, he was a stickler for the forms of etiquette, as explained by him in print. Baron Stackelberg, the diplomatic representative of Sweden, who thanked God emphatically that he had never violated etiquette, proved that Mr. Adams was the Chesterfield of the day. "When," said he, "I had been out all night," for the Baron was a *roué*, "I was in the habit of meeting Mr. Adams in his early walks, while on my way home. Mr. Adams was then too polite to see me; but after three, on leaving his office, and meeting me properly dressed, he would give me a most gracious bow and salutation." This, the Baron thought a more striking evidence of politeness than that of the host who invited his guest to a well-provided sideboard, and then turned his back, that he might not witness the extent of his libations.

Baron Stackelberg.

For years I had the honor of exchanging hospitalities, sometimes unceremoniously, with Mr. Adams. He could make himself very agreeable, and was most so in a small circle, when wound up to do the talking. He had some peculiar notions. When a Senator, in the same mess with Pickering, Bayard, Tracy, and other Federal gentlemen of the day, some of whom told their stories and cracked their jokes very freely, it was ascertained that he kept a diary, in which he jotted down everything. "This won't do," said Bayard; "I don't talk in a way in which I should be willing to appear in print." Others were of the same opinion. It was decided that his colleague, Mr. Pickering, should speak to him on the subject. Mr. Adams

Jas. A. Bayard.

admitted the fact, but insisted on his right. He was then informed that he must desist, or he or the others must leave the mess. He left it, and not long after went over to the Democracy, and accused the New England Federalists of being dangerously allied to England. This course won the favor of Mr. Jefferson. The tergiversation of Mr. Adams, and his charge upon his former political friends, has been considered a blot upon his escutcheon. His bias seemed to be with his interest, and his feelings changed accordingly, so that he was not always governed by stern principle.

Mr. Jefferson.

John Adams.

Adams, *père*, was said to have been influenced by his vanity, his passions, and his prejudices. It would seem he was not indifferent to his son's interest, as for it he abandoned the principles of his own administration and embraced those of Mr. Jefferson, when his son adopted them. The elder Adams was wont to say, "I and General Washington," and "I made General Washington." Mr. Adams was chagrined that Washington should have been the first President. He and his son united with Jefferson in hatred of England.

Gen. Jackson.

A new era, far different from that of "good feeling," burst upon the country under the "spoils system" of General Jackson. The "hero" resembled the elder Adams in being influenced by his passions and by flattery. His political views were personal rather than the result of statesmanship and experience. The extent of his information was circumscribed. He saw things through the eyes of others, and was proud to take the responsibility in critical cases, as if based on his own judgment. He was, however, decided and unwavering, firm in friendship, and unforgiving in hatred. He required subservience from his friends. Though not Chesterfieldian in his manners, he was often dignified, affable, and kind. In some cases I know of his

readiness to do justice to the injured. My housekeeper was often deceived by the tenant of the only house she owned. He paid no rent, and there was no hope of her getting it. He held a good office under General Macomb, at the Headquarters of the Army. At my suggestion, she laid the case before the President. He listened patiently to her recital, decided *ex parte* forthwith in her favor, and handed her a note to General Macomb, informing him that "if Mr. R. did not pay Mrs. T. the stated sum the next day, he must be dismissed from office." The sum due was paid the next day. On another occasion, a similar complaint was made against a Government clerk from Tennessee, a friend of his own, and appointed by him. Said the General, "Get his note for the amount due, interest added for sixty days, and bring it to me." "That will be of no use," was the reply; "he never pays his notes." "Do as I direct," said the General. The note was brought to General Jackson. He indorsed it, and handed it to the complainant, saying, "Take that to the Bank of the Metropolis, and at maturity it will be paid by the drawer or indorser;" and so it was, by the drawer, who tauntingly asked his creditor, a few days after sending him his note, "Why did you want *my* note?" "To get it discounted." "Who on earth would discount my note?" "The Bank of the Metropolis." On the debtor expressing his astonishment, his creditor replied, "I had a good indorser." "Who would indorse my note?" "General Jackson has done it, and says he will pay it if you don't." His payment of the note probably kept the clerk in office.

Gen. Macomb.

Indorsed note.

One day, at the earnest entreaty of some ladies, and of Mr. Van Buren, who escorted them to be presented to the President, I accompanied them. Almost as soon as the introduction was over, General Jackson turned to me with some inquiry about

Mr. Van Buren.

race-horses; he warmed with the subject, and seeming to forget the presence of the ladies and the Vice-President, he entered into details about his famous horse, Truxton, saying, "With heavy shoes, he ran the mile on my Cumberland Bottom course in one minute, fifty-two seconds." Mr. Van Buren for the first time referred to the subject with the meek inquiry, "Is that fast, General?" "Fast, sir!" replied the General, in a short and reproachful tone, turning his back on Mr. Van Buren, and continuing the conversation with me until the ladies rose to take leave. I afterward heard, on the authority of Mr. Van Buren, that General Jackson said, "Mr. Tayloe can't be a bad man, he is so knowing about horses." A compliment, in spite of my politics.

Race-horses.

Civilities.

I received many civilities from General Jackson while he was President; more than from Mr. Van Buren, his successor, with whom I had been in the habit of exchanging civilities before his accession to the Presidency. He was less hospitable than any person I have known in the White House, preceding the present incumbent. Mr. Buchanan was not extravagant in that way, but of him hereafter.

Sir Chas. Vaughan

During Mr. Van Buren's administration, and previously, Sir Charles Vaughan, the British Minister, was the tenant of the Decatur house. He lived in it as a British Minister ought to live; was very popular with all classes, very hospitable, and entertained every one entitled to his attention. I remember being at a small dinner he gave Mr. Charles Kemble and his daughter, not long after their arrival in this country. It was on Sunday, and among the guests were Edward Everett and Senator Archer, of Virginia.

At one of Sir Charles's delightful parties, not a large one, but what was termed "select," of a warm July evening, I remember

the approach to the sofa on which I sat, of a fashionable lady, just from France, in a bright red dress, *tout à fait Parisien.* My next neighbor, Mr. G. W. Featherstonehaugh, afterwards British Consul at Havre, inquired of me, "Who is that woman? She will set us all on fire!" I evaded the answer, her husband being next me. The inquiry was made of him. He coolly and laconically answered, "God knows," and strode away. He was the celebrated Grymes, of New Orleans. Sir Charles was a handsome man for his age, about fifty, refined, talented, highly educated, a Fellow of Oxford, the brother of Baron Vaughan and Sir Henry Halford. To please the Democracy of the land, it was thought he affected bluntness and slang. Soon after his arrival, in warm weather, he made his first appearance in society at a small evening party at Mrs. Kuhn's. On receiving him, Mrs. K. graciously expressed her regret that the weather was so warm. "Warm! madam," he exclaimed; "it is as hot as hell!" Then turning to his Secretary, Percy Doyle, afterwards Minister to Mexico, he called out, "Percy, you little d—d rascal, come here and be presented to Mrs. Kuhn!" He was regular in attendance at church, and at all times attentive to and consi lerate of the rector, Dr. Hawley.

John R. Grymes.

On his leaving the country, a ball was given Sir Charles at the theatre, at which General Van Ness gave this toast: "Sir Charles Vaughan, H. B. M.'s Minister near the Court of Washington." It was received with much merriment and with shouts of applause.

Gen Van Ness.

Baron Hyde de Neuville, the French Minister, was a most estimable man, and with his kind wife enjoyed making others happy. On receiving her guests, she used to say, "I am charming to see you." They were the first tenants of the Decatur house, on the removal of Mrs. Decatur to Kalorama. I re-

member a grand ball there at that refined epoch. Two very fashionable belles, the one from New York, the other from Boston, went in front of the company, on their way to supper. My friend, Count de Menou, the Secretary of Legation, sprang into the niche at the head of the staircase, crying out, "I assure you, *ladies*, the supper is not yet ready."

De Neuville.

Baron de Neuville had been an *emigré* during the French Revolution, and lived on the Raritan, in New Jersey, much loved and esteemed by his neighbors. He became intimate with Louis the Eighteenth and Charles the Tenth. On the accession of the former to the throne of France, De Neuville came out to America as his Minister. Had the latter followed his advice, at first, he would have saved his throne. At last he told De Neuville, "You are right, and I will do as you wish." "It is too late now, Sire." The die was cast. Louis Philippe ascended the throne. With him De Neuville would hold no relations, regarding him as a usurper. This was the state of affairs when I had the honor of being entertained, in Paris, by the De Neuvilles, in 1837. Theirs was then a Carlist house.

Mons. Roux

Mons. Roux, a gentleman in all respects, a man of letters, an author, and devoted to the fine arts, was a worthy successor of Baron de Neuville during the Bourbon dynasty. He brought with him a very valuable gallery of pictures.

There was a degeneracy in the representatives of France under Louis Philippe and the Republic.

On Sir Charles Vaughan leaving the Decatur house, it passed into the possession of mine host of the "National," Mr. John Gadsby, who occupied it, with his esteemed family, until his death; after which apartments in the second and third stories were rented, first to Mr. Gales, who always entertained handsomely, and for two winters to Messrs. John A. and James G.

King, sons of the distinguished Rufus King, and members of the House from New York and New Jersey. The Kings were accomplished gentlemen, and had lived much abroad. The elder and his brother Charles, late editor of the "New York American," and now President of Columbia College, and a man of fortune, had been educated in England, while their father was residing there as one of the United States Commissioners under Jay's treaty, and where he was held in high esteem. They were at Harrow with the since renowned Lord Byron and Sir Robert Peel. Mr. John A. King was Secretary of Legation to his father, when Minister to England under Mr. Adams, and afterwards Governor of New York. Politically he is, and has been for years, ultra-sectional. When a member of the Peace Convention, in 1861, he aided the war party, and told me he wished the Potomac to be the southern boundary of the country. That also is understood to have been the wish of Mr. Secretary Chase, who at first "was willing to acknowledge the Southern Confederacy," as he told me. However, we found the Kings agreeable and sociable neighbors. They were succeeded as tenants of the now Gadsby house by the family of the Hon. William Appleton, the Representative from Boston. He was particularly a benevolent man, so much so that on a complaint by his steward, during a very cold spell of weather, that his wood, which had been left on the sidewalk by his order, was fast diminishing, he replied, "I think it had better not be put away while the weather remains so cold." Mr. Appleton, whose financial talents made him useful in Congress, was, under the storm of abolitionism, succeeded by Mr. Burlingame!

Lord Byron.

Wm. Appleton.

The Gadsby house is now used for offices. Its last tenant was the present Secretary of State to the Southern Confederacy, Mr. Benjamin, when a Senator from Louisiana. He furnished

the house splendidly, partly from the furniture of Louis Philippe in the Tuileries, and his wife came to him from Paris, but they did not entertain company in the style of their predecessors.

Wm. W. Corcoran.

We will now pass from the Gadsby house to the magnificent mansion and grounds of Mr. William W. Corcoran, but now occupied for the nonce, as a protection, by Mons. Mercier, the esteemed French Minister, and his family. It was built in part by the late Thomas Swann, formerly of Alexandria, the father of Mr. and Mrs. Mercer, of West River, of Governor Swann, of Maryland, and Dr. Swann, of Philadelphia. Its first tenant, in Jackson's time, was Baron Krudener, the Russian Minister. He was an amiable, witty, and accomplished man, and very highly valued for his social qualities, although very deaf. He was the son of the celebrated Madame Krudener, a devotee, who, through her influence over the Emperor Alexander, brought about the Holy Alliance, which, from a religious object, was converted into an engine of political power.

Mr. Webster.

During Mr. Van Buren's administration, Mr. Aaron Vail, under-Secretary of State, made such by his marriage to Miss Sales, consigned to him with that view when he was left *chargé* at London, on the rejection of Mr. Van Buren by the Senate, occupied this house. Mr. Webster, Secretary of State under General Harrison, became the next tenant, and lived in a lordly style, especially when making the treaty with Lord Ashburton, his near neighbor, "sent out," as Mr. Webster said, "to be acceptable to *me*."

Pres't Harrison.

Our estimable President, Harrison, scarce seated in the chair of state one short month, was then dead. Mine was the last house he visited. The evening of the day of his visit to me, for a friendly object, he was taken ill, and in the course of a week the Rev. Dr. Hawley announced to Mr. Webster that "he was *sorry* to inform him that President Harrison was in heaven." It is to

WEBSTER'S HOUSE, AND VISTA OF H STREET TO THE ARLINGTON.

Library of Congress

On the north side of the Square, the house at left was bought by William Wilson Corcoran from Daniel Webster. Admirers had given Webster the house eight years earlier; the sale was forced by his extravagance. In 1849 it became the city's first high Victorian mansion when Corcoran had it remodeled by James Renwick who designed the Corcoran Gallery of Art at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in 1859, (now the Smithsonian's Renwick).

This view looking east on H Street shows the low, rounded tower of St. John's Church with the houses of Henry Adams and John Hay to its left and Ashburton House and the Arlington Hotel to its right.

William Oliver Stone Corcoran Gallery of Art

WILLIAM WILSON CORCORAN AND HIS ORIGINAL GALLERY

Washington's "first philanthropist" was a founder of Corcoran and Riggs Banking House and a Lafayette Square neighbor of the Tayloes. The Tayloes shared with him a life-long interest in collecting works of art, leaving them to the Corcoran Gallery.

After Ogle Tayloe died, his widow's will listed nine pages of art objects, including portraits of George Washington by Trumbull and Stuart and of Queen Victoria by Winterhalter (a gift of the Napiers). Also listed were works of Velasquez, Murillo, Charles Bird King and Inman; sculptures by Greenough, David and Canova. The will lists many souvenirs of the Tayloes' associations with great names: round candle stand given to Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, on her marriage by her Father Genl. Schuyler, medallion head of Jefferson by Dr. Thornton (copy by King), portrait of Mr. Van Buren by Alexander, presented by Mr. Van Buren himself, Splinters of the Flag-staff of Fort Sumter given to Mrs. Tayloe by Genl. Anderson himself, Genl. Jackson's Hickory Stick its history engraved on it, Box made from the timber of the ship in which Cook sailed round the world, Gold Snuff Box belonging to Queen Caroline Murat, Stone Cameo Bracelet belonging to Princess Pauline Borghese, (both valuable). Both purchased from the Princess Murat immediately after the Civil War, when she had been exceedingly reduced in Florida.

Phoebe Warren Tayloe's will specified that the objects of art and skill, the articles of vertu, the books and other personal property already given by me be kept together as a fitting memorial of my late husband . . . distinguished and designated: The Ogle Tayloe Collection—and I wish the said trustees to put and keep the said property in the best possible repair and condition. *Most of the collection later reverted to the family.*

be regretted, for the public good, that his eccentric successor had not preceded him. While meditating a desertion from the Whig principles on which he was elected, "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," his Attorney-General, Mr. Crittenden, gave the new President an evening party. His probable course as to the United States Bank was then the great question of the hour. Mr. Clay, as they approached the side-table together, thus accosted him, "How do you decide?" (a pause and general silence, all awaiting the reply, and Mr. Tyler looking perplexed) "in favor of whiskey or wine?" Mr. Clay, in a humorous way, was fond of saying such things, as to Mr. Van Buren, when gathering up the reins in his buggy to take General Jackson a drive, "Taking the reins, eh!" The Swann house was bought by Mr. Webster, and the money raised by subscription to pay for it, but diverted to another object. When Mr. Webster left Mr. Tyler's Cabinet, Mr. Corcoran became its purchaser, and greatly improved the house and grounds, making it altogether the most splendid town establishment in the country. Mr. Corcoran, by his magnificent entertainments, threw all others in the shade. In General Pierce's time, Mr. Corcoran wielded a great influence in Washington. His splendid dinners are well remembered; the most grand, with a file of Senators on each side the table, or intermixed with the foreign and Cabinet ministers; but the most beautiful when he occasionally assembled pretty women, for Mr. Corcoran had an eye to beauty. His taste in all respects is excellent.

Henry Clay.

Mr. Corcoran.

We come next to the Madison house, the present residence of Admiral Wilkes. It was erected a little in advance of the Corcoran mansion by the Hon. Richard Cutts, who had been in Congress, and held various offices under government. He was a debtor to Mr. Madison, and on his death the property came

Richard Cutts.

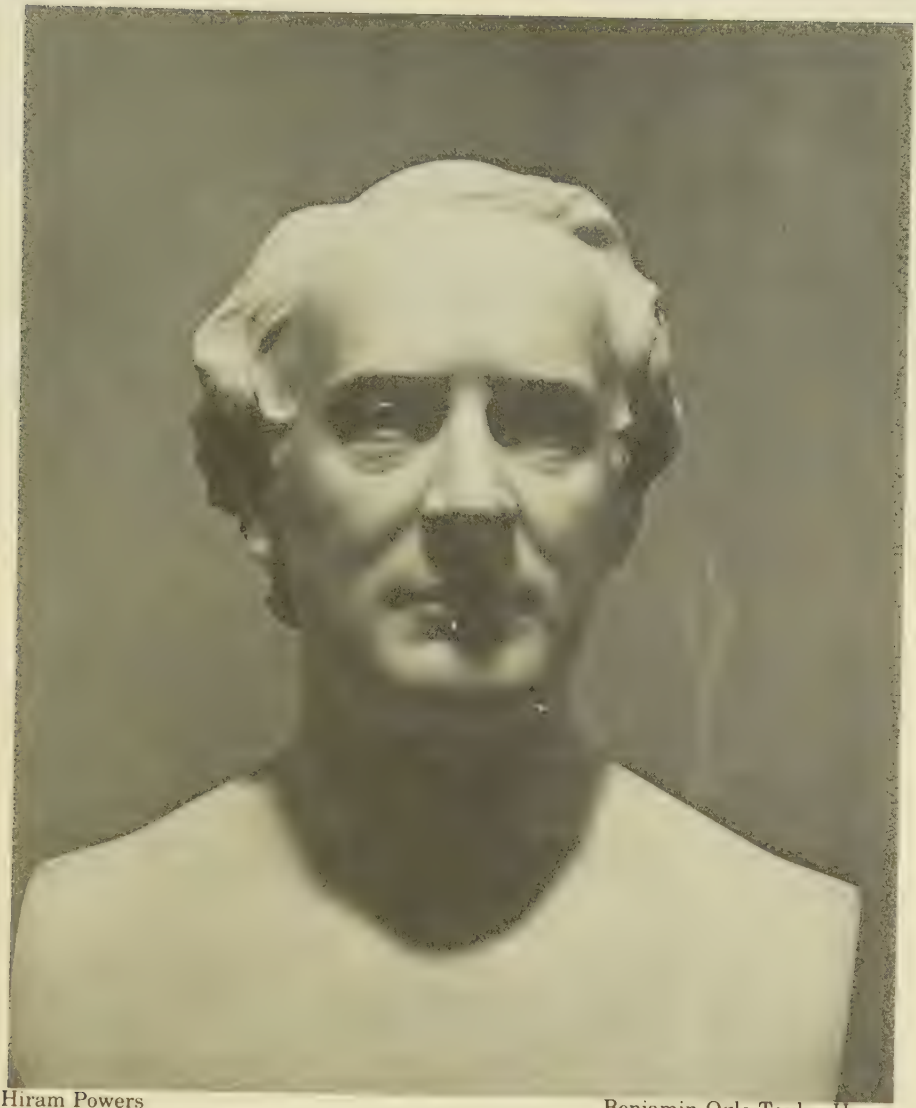
Mrs. Madison.

into the possession of Mrs. Madison, about the year 1835. Ruined by her son, who got the control of her estate, which would have realized at least $100,000 when it came to her, she was compelled to retrench her expenses, until relieved by Congress with a grant of $30,000, the most of which was exhausted to pay the debts of her son, Payne Todd, an epicure and a gambler, who had great influence over his mother, and who spent all her money upon which he could lay his hands. Mrs. Madison made no complaint, but retired to the country to economize, and rented her house in turn successively to Mr. Attorney-General Crittenden and the Hon. William C. Preston, of South Carolina, who, with their families, and also Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt, of New York, when the former was in Congress, we found to be agreeable neighbors.

Mrs. Madison was a very remarkable woman, had been very handsome, was graceful and gracious. Her *bonhomie* could not be surpassed. She was loved alike by rich and poor. After her death, her house was purchased by Admiral Wilkes.

Mr. Tayloe.

Next in the order of building was my own house, No. 2 Madison Place. I removed to it early in General Jackson's administration, and it continues my residence under that of Mr. Lincoln. It has been honored with the best company of the land, and that from foreign countries. Its roof has covered Harrison, Taylor, Fillmore, Cass, Clay, Webster, Calhoun, Preston, Rives, Legaré, Badger, Scott, Irving, Prescott, Bancroft, &c., &c., the most distinguished of our statesmen and historians, from the date of its erection. In 1862, on one side of me, in the Wilkes house, were General McClellan's headquarters (and when he mounted his charger I have seen him attended by the Prince de Joinville, the Duc de Chartres, the Comte de Paris, and other foreign princes, beside his distinguished American



Hiram Powers

Benjamin Ogle Tayloe House

BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE

This marble bust on its pedestal of ebony and marble stands in the parlor of the house Tayloe built on the Square, one of the few family possessions there today. The house, restored by the Government in the 1960s Lafayette Square rebuilding and restoration work, is now part of the National Courts Building and is often used by the White House for entertaining.

THE GREAT TRAGEDY IN WASHINGTON.—CARRYING THE DEAD BODY OF PHILIP BARTON KEY INTO THE CLUB-HOUSE.

Columbia Historical Society

In the latter part of February, 1859, a tragical event occurred in the immediate vicinity of Mr. Tayloe's residence. The Hon. Philip Barton Key, a relative of Mr. Tayloe, was shot by Mr. Sickles, a member of Congress from New York, and died a few minutes afterward in the house next door to Mr. Tayloe's, on Lafayette Square.

Key, a son of Francis Scott Key, was shot near the house at left, then called the Club House. His sister, wife of an Ohio Congressman wrote:

Dear Mrs. Tayloe:

I cannot leave this evening without thanking you and cousin Ogle for all your kindness to me; but above all for standing by poor Barton in this dark misery.

He was worthy of it, and either here or hereafter time will solve the mystery and vindicate his name.

Good-bye, dear Mrs. Tayloe, and when you think of me, remember that in my greatest suffering you comforted me.

Always affectionately yours,

Washington, C Street, March 10th Alice Key Pendleton

Sickles was acquitted for temporary aberration of mind *provoked by Key's involvement with Mrs. Sickles.*

staff), on the other, in the former Rodgers house, was the residence of the Secretary of State, Governor Seward, who has entertained there the Prince Napoleon and the most distinguished visitors at Washington during the present dynasty. As Senator Seward, he dined with me to meet Messrs. Rives, Summers, Morehead, and other gentlemen of the South, during the session of the Peace Convention, in the chance of some amicable arrangement being brought on the *tapis* to avert a civil war. But Mr. Seward did not believe in war, and could not be diverted from his course. Gov. Seward.

Soon after my house was built, Commodore Rodgers built, for his own residence, the house south of mine. He was the Nestor of the navy, much distinguished, and of great experience, though not as highly favored by fortune as some of his contemporaries. He was an agreeable and intelligent companion, and told capital stories. Not long after his death, his house was rented to the Hon. Roger B. Taney, while Secretary of the Treasury, to Mr. Paulding, while Secretary of the Navy, and to Mrs. Latimer and Mrs. Keller as a boarding-house. With the former, the Hon. John C. Spencer boarded, while Secretary of War and of the Treasury under President Tyler, and in that house he received intelligence of the execution of his son on board the Somers. Subsequently it was converted into a club-house, in which Philip Barton Key died, a few minutes after receiving the fatal shot from Sickles. After that catastrophe, it was sold, repaired, and rented to Governor Seward, when Secretary of State. Com. Rodgers. John C. Spencer.

The house next to Commodore Decatur's had probably been built earlier than that, by Dr. Ewell, of the Navy. His son, the renowned General Ewell, of the Confederate Army, was probably born there. Generals Meade, Pleasanton, and Lovell also resided in Washington in their boyhood. The Ewell house Dr. Ewell.

passed successively to three Secretaries of the Navy, Smith Thompson, Southard, and Woodbury, the former and the latter also Justices of the Supreme Court. It was also occupied for a while by my friend, William C. Rives, then Senator from Virginia. Dr. Harris, of the Navy, next became its tenant for some years. His beautiful and sprightly, as well as excellent, wife was the charm of the house. His daughter married Judge Daniel, of the Supreme Court, and came to her death by her clothes taking fire. The house was afterwards bought by Mr. Stockton, an amiable gentleman, and a purser in the Navy. His wife was a niece of Commodore Decatur, and lived with him at the time of his death. On the death of Mr. Stockton, the house was rented to Mr. Sickles, of New York.

Wm. C. Rives.

Dr. Gunnell.

Dr. Gunnell, dentist, next built his residence at the corner of the Avenue and Madison Place, as convenient for his profession. While so occupied, he received a message from President Van Buren, desiring to see him. Not doubting it was a professional call, he took his dentistry box under his arm. To his surprise, he was invited to receive the unthought-of appointment of City Postmaster, provided he made his brother-in-law, Mr. Mackall, who was an active politician in Maryland, his chief clerk. The terms were arranged, and Dr. Gunnell, to general surprise, as well as his own, became postmaster of the city of Washington. On his death, Lafayette Maynard, partly through my agency, bought the property for $40,000. He was a man of rare merit, previously a lieutenant in the Navy, and distinguished himself by saving the passengers of the Atlantic steamer, wrecked on Fisher's Island, an event which all will remember from the beautiful incident of the tolling of her bell through the action of the waves on the wreck; as it were, a requiem to the lost. Prior to Mr. Maynard's purchase, the house was rented to Mr. Hub-

Lieut. Maynard.

bard, of Connecticut, Postmaster-General under President Fillmore. Mr. Hubbard's hospitable entertainments have left pleasant recollections. His wife was the reigning spirit,—intelligent, industrious, spiritual, and ambitious. Near the house is the headquarters of General Heintzelman, the military governor of Washington, where he and his staff are to be seen daily superintending the defences of the Capital. Mr. Hubbard.

About the time Dr. Gunnell built his house, Matthew St. Clair Clarke, Clerk of the House of Representatives, built his magnificent mansion next to St. John's Church, now occupied by its present owner, Colonel Freeman, late of General Scott's staff. Independent of his good income from his clerkship, which he lost under the decree of Jacksonism, that none but those of the true faith, a few special favorites excepted, should hold any office under the Government or Congress, Mr. Clarke fancied himself worth at least $200,000. It was swept away by speculation about the time he was making large expenditures in building and furnishing his house. The white marble portico, never removed from the marble-yard in Baltimore, was to have cost $5000. When Mr. Clarke's affairs were embarrassed, Mr. Gales's family occupied apartments in the house, and entertained handsomely. They lived afterward in the same way in the Decatur house. Mr. Clarke's house was rented to Lord Ashburton, Sir Henry Bulwer, the British Minister, Mr. George Riggs, and Mr. Meredith, Secretary of the Treasury under General Taylor, until it passed into the possession of Colonel Freeman. St. Clair Clarke.

The next house built was the one east of Mr. Corcoran's, by his brother Thomas, who died before its completion. It passed to the possession and occupancy of Thomas Ritchie, the distinguished editor, and Government printer under Mr. Polk. The transfer of Mr. Ritchie to Washington by Mr. Polk and the poli- Thomas Ritchie.

Francis P. Blair.

ticians of his school, ultimately drove Francis P. Blair into the Opposition, and especially to the South and the Southern institution. To recover his former influence, Blair selected Lincoln. Lincoln was his man. Blair knew him, a sort of connection through a marriage in the family—(while I write, President Lincoln is passing my window, followed by a cavalry escort with drawn swords)—and placed him over Seward. Ritchie was a remarkable man, the great champion of State Rights and the doctrines of '98. He was for some thirty years or more, through the "Richmond Enquirer," the voice of Virginia Democracy. For his social qualities and kindly disposition, apart from politics, Mr. Ritchie was much respected, happy in his family, all of whom were socially imbued with aristocracy.

Mr. Welles.

On the death of Mr. Ritchie, Mr. John Slidell, Senator from Louisiana, became the occupant of the house until his resignation, in 1861. Mr. Welles, Secretary of the Navy, is its present tenant.

Some years elapsed before another house was added to the Square. Towards the close of Mr. Buchanan's administration, the three houses opposite the southwest corner were built, the northern house by my clever friend, Mr. Trowbridge, formerly of the Army, the next by General Townsend, of the Army, and the third by Dr. Parker, formerly our respected Envoy to China, who still resides in it.

Thus I have referred to all the houses facing the Square, and to their occupants, most of them our friendly neighbors. I will now revert to several occupants of the White House, succeeding General Harrison. By virtue of his office, but for no other

John Tyler.

virtue or qualification, Vice-President Tyler succeeded to the Presidency. Delicacy on the part of Leigh and other Virginians in the Harrisburg Convention, prevented their opposition

to his nomination. They knew his political tergiversations, and distrusted him. False once to the Democracy, he was also false to the Whigs. He was intoxicated by vanity, success, and power. In needy circumstances, with a large family, and a poor prospect before him, Tyler sought office, if only for its emoluments. He was not sordid or dishonest in pecuniary affairs, but a man of generous impulses. With great confidence in himself, and great loquacity, he wanted refinement. In electioneering for himself, his boldness was unblushing. I have understood he made his bargain with Polk for the succession at the expiration of the latter's term. Polk was hardly elected, however, before General Jackson forbade the bans, doubtless holding in remembrance Tyler's desertion of himself. Robert Tyler said to me, "Do you know Polk has actually treated us with insult, not even noticing my letters?" Mr. Tyler's place in history is not an enviable one. When President, he was civil to me, but from self-respect I ceased to visit him, as I did Mr. Buchanan in the last winter of his term, from a feeling that both were doing all the injury in their power to the country by their course and example.

John Tyler.

Robert Tyler.

Mr. Polk was a man of mediocrity in every respect, of ignoble appearance and manners, but civil. I knew but little of him personally. His wife was amiable, and her manners were kind and cordial. No one felt unkindly to her.

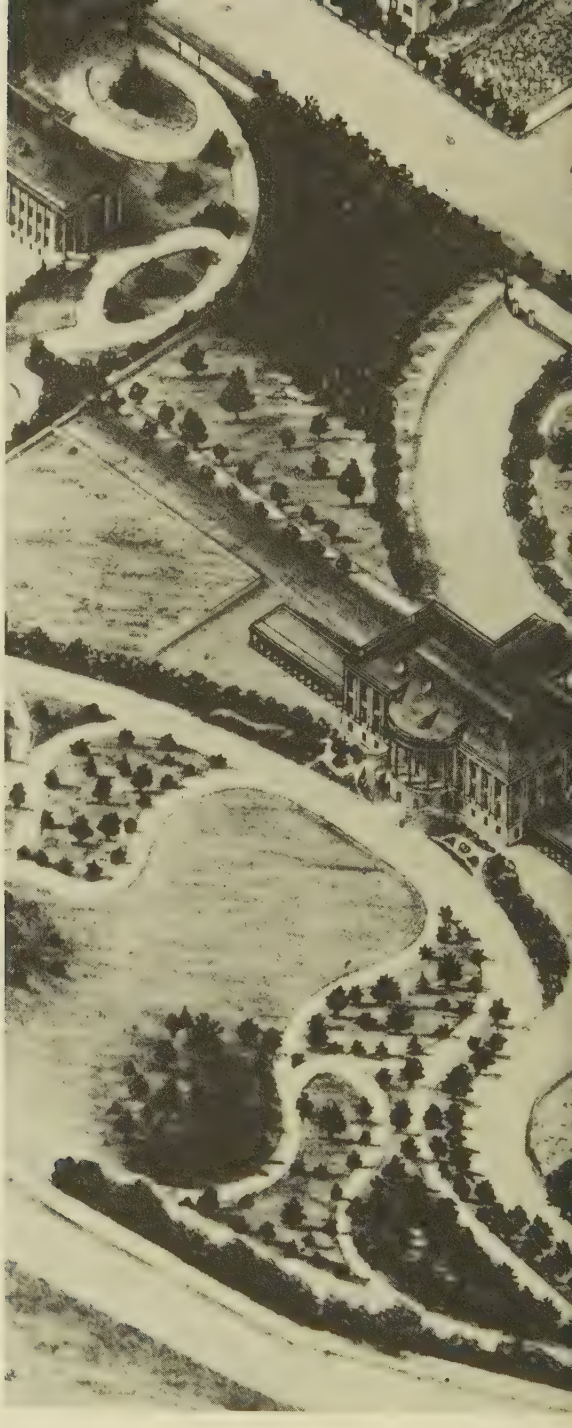
Mr. Polk.

General Taylor, in the burst of martial enthusiasm, as the hero of great victories in Mexico, beat for the Presidency the "Hero of Hull's Surrender." General Taylor was as honest and straightforward as he was brave; a polite, modest, and unassuming gentleman. My own relations with him were agreeable and somewhat intimate. Walking with him one day on the Avenue, we parted, and on meeting again, half an hour afterward, we resumed our walk together. The General re-

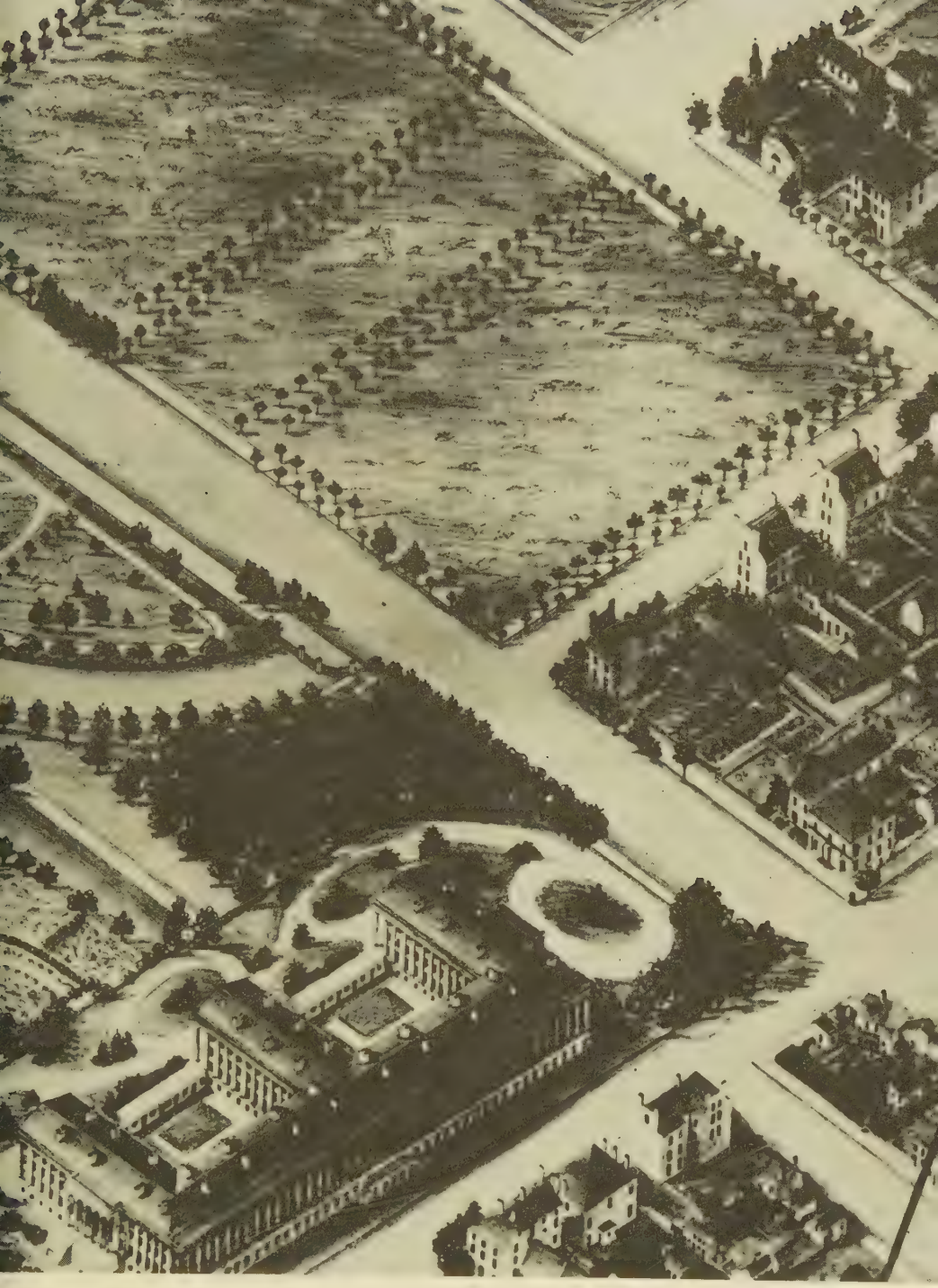
Gen. Taylor.

The land that became the Square was an orchard and the Pearce family graveyard in 1791 when the L'Enfant plan designated it part of the President's Park. Later Pennsylvania Avenue was cut through, separating the Square from the White House.

Gradually it became known as "La Fayette Square" after the Revolutionary War hero returned to America on his triumphal 1824 journey.



DRAWING OF PROPOSED PLAN OF THE LAFAYETTE SQUARE AREA, 1845



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marked, "I have been walking with General Cass since we parted, and Cass said, 'It will be thought something is in the wind on our being seen together.' I said, 'No one will suspect *me*.'" I believe the sterling integrity of General Taylor was never more suspected than that of General Washington, and was above suspicion. His successor, Mr. Fillmore, in the honest administration of the Government, followed the example of his "illustrious predecessor," and with a natural dignity sustained that of the Presidential mansion as of yore. The era of good feeling was restored, and with it the restoration of the prosperity of the country under the able counsels of Clay and Webster. Fillmore was too upright and dignified to suit the vulgar, trading politicians who ruled his successors in a way that led to the present deplorable state of the country.

Mr. Fillmore.

General Pierce was the successor of Mr. Fillmore. He was elected over General Scott to be the tool of the Nullifiers, and the greatest credit he seems to deserve is his fidelity to his party. He was always well-dressed, and polite and courteous. But politics were with him the first consideration. On his receiving at a levée President Duer, of Columbia College, a gentleman by birth and education, and of distinguished appearance and dignified manners, President Pierce contented himself with presenting Judge Duer to Mrs. Pierce, and then retired to the embrasure of a window with one of the "unwashed Democracy," a newspaper reporter, perhaps, and took no more notice of Judge Duer. On leaving the house, I asked the latter what he thought of the President? His reply was, "He might do for a gentleman usher." Judge Duer, in his youth, was much about the Houses of Parliament and the British Court, under the auspices of his distinguished relative, Mr. Rose, M. P., &c. His remark above quoted seems more to the point than John Van Buren's

General Pierce.

Wm. A. Duer.

to Governor Cass, when Minister to France. After presentation to Louis Philippe, for whom our Envoy had the most profound respect, he asked Mr. Van Buren, "What do you think of the monarch?" "As I think of any other snuffy old Frenchman," was the reply. John Van Buren.

In my humble opinion, General Pierce, as President, did irreparable injury to the country by furnishing the ground of the civil war. This he did by making Kansas the shibboleth of his party to reunite it after a split over the "spoils." He united the Democracy, but divided the Union. On the latter fell the Pandora's box furnished by Pierce, and filled to the brim by his successor, Buchanan.

Mr. Buchanan was our thirteenth President, and, without intending it, our political Judas. He was ambitious for another term of the Presidency, and with that object in view was willing that divisions should exist in his party, in the hope of its reunion for his benefit. What I saw and heard has led to this conclusion. Mr. Buchanan.

Mr. Buchanan had not the advantages of a liberal education; he had, however, the advantages of foreign travel, and was often agreeable and instructive in conversation. He was not deficient in talent or culture, but lacked judgment and firmness.

It was unfortunate that the honor of entertaining the Prince of Wales devolved on him. If he had desired to disgust the Prince and his suite, he could not have succeeded more entirely than he did by throwing open his doors at the literally public reception, and admitting the *oi polloi*, even the hackmen, whip in hand! who were seen in close contact with the Prince and his party. Prince of Wales.

Mr. Buchanan sent the Prince also to see Virginia under the most unfavorable circumstances, in a revenue cutter to Aquia, thence by a railway through a poor country to Richmond. Virginia.

This, I had hoped, might be avoided. For the sake of Virginia and the honor of the country, I took the liberty of laying a different programme before the President. He said "the boy" should be civilly treated by him, because "his mother was *my* friend;" that Congress had made no appropriation for his entertainment, and that he should entertain him as he did others. I tried hard to convince him that the Prince of Wales (heir expectant to the British crown) was to be considered as the nation's guest, and that the country would sustain him in entertaining him accordingly, if he had to put his hand deep into the Treasury for the purpose. I seconded Miss Lane that she should give the Prince a select ball, if the President could not do so. I recommended that Commodore Shubrick, as our High Admiral, should be put in command of a suitable vessel of war; one was then lying at Norfolk every way suited for the purpose, commanded by Captain Ingraham, and ready for sea, that a telegram would have brought to Washington in advance of the Prince. As the Duke of Clarence, afterward William the Fourth, in that way did the honors to the crowned victors of Napoleon when they visited England, we should to the best of our ability in like manner do honor to the Prince of Wales. I also suggested that on leaving Washington Commodore Shubrick should take the Prince by the Chesapeake up the James River, and on his return, either to Baltimore or New York, as the Prince might prefer. I had even made arrangements for his suitable entertainment at the princely mansion of Westover. All the delicacies for the occasion were provided, and the guests to meet the Prince invited. He would then have seen Virginia, its most fertile and improved lands, and its classic and historical places, to the best advantage. Mr. Buchanan chose to pursue his own programme, to the mortification of at least every Virginia gentleman, if not of others.

Miss Harriet Lane

Wm. B. Shubrick.

T.P. Rossiter National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian

On October 5, 1860, the 19-year-old-Prince of Wales and white-haired James Buchanan stood together at the right of George Washington's tomb; among the group at Mount Vernon were the Misses Slidell, Mr. and Mrs. Riggs, Col. and Miss Seaton (all La Fayette Square neighbors) and presumably Benjamin Ogle Tayloe. In 1867, he wrote this letter from Antwerp: "In my tour of Europe, I have stood at the tombs of the great captains of the Christian era: Charlemagne, Frederick the Great, Napoleon, Turenne, Marlborough, and Wellington, as I did, in our country, by the tomb of Washington, when reverently visited by the heir to the throne of Great Britain, the great-grandson of George III, from whom the noble Virginian wrested one of the most precious gems of his diadem."

The group sailed down the Potomac on a Treasury Department revenue cutter named for the President's niece, the Harriet Lane *embarking from what is now Fort McNair. The October 5, 1860,* Evening Star *wrote*: A considerable crowd had assembled in expectation of the arrival at the Arsenal to take a peep at the future King of England, and many a sharp glance was directed towards the President's carriage as it neared the wharf. The best of order was maintained, however, and the spectators evinced great satisfaction at the . . . chance of seeing a live Prince.

The next day the Harriet Lane *took the Prince to Aquia Creek where he continued south by train. Buchanan wrote Queen Victoria:* The Prince left us for Richmond this morning with the Duke of Newcastle. . . . The visit of the Prince to the tomb of Washington and the simple but solemn ceremonies at this consecrated spot will become a historical event and cannot fail to exert a happy influence on the kindred people of the two countries.

The Queen had sent her son, later Edward VII, to Canada in 1860 for the cornerstone-laying of the Parliament House in Ottawa and the opening of the St. Lawrence railway bridge. The first heir to the British throne to visit the United States, he stayed three days at the White House. He had known James Buchanan and his niece when the President served as Ambassador to the Court of St. James and his "First Lady" was officially recognized by Queen Victoria as hostess of the American Embassy.

A. R. Waud — Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs

PRESIDENT LINCOLN, WHITE HOUSE SOUTH GROUNDS

President Lincoln is shown with the Twelfth New York Volunteers in this drawing of June 19, 1861. This Regiment had crossed the Potomac on May 24th to capture Alexandria and the Virginia hills commanding Washington, the first Union regiment to invade Virginia.

Mr. Lincoln's residence in the White House I leave for the record of that History which he has said was being prepared for him. May he leave the house of his predecessors in peace, and the country as prosperous as it can be under the losses it has sustained during his administration. Let it speak for itself hereafter. Socially, if not otherwise, *ignoro*. Mr. Lincoln.

Thus have I referred to every house on La Fayette Square, and to every tenant, many of them my good neighbors, including the venerable Crittenden, of whose death at seventy-seven I have heard to-day. He was frequently at my house. I respected his virtues, his patriotism, his courage, his delicacy, and his fine and sensitive feelings. I knew him as an orator, and would throw a veil over his foibles, the weaknesses of ambition or of age. As a Damon, Clay should have been his Pythias. He should never have swerved from high principle for a temporary object. On speaking to him of the fate of our country, he burst into tears, and could scarcely say a word. The last time I saw him the subject was revived. He had fears of the encroachment of power to the subversion of our institutions and our liberties, yet expressing a hope that the mind of the administration turned on peace, and that with its connivance foreign intervention might bring it about. A Union man, ready to make any sacrifice for Union, he then, last February (1863), seemed wholly at a loss as to his own course, and declared most emphatically he had been deceived by the administration. Jno. J. Crittenden

I must now pass hurriedly over a notice of houses not facing La Fayette Square, built upon the half square on which I live, such as Commodore McAuley's house, Riggs's banking-house, formerly the Branch Bank of the United States, the house on Fifteenth Street, built by Harrison Smith, the first editor of the "National Intelligencer," the one at the corner of H Street, Harrison Smith.

occupied by Baron Gerolt, built by the accomplished Captain Jefferson Page, now of the Confederate service, the one next, the residence of Miss Kerr, and the one west of it, Mrs. Hill's, presented to her by her brother, Mr. William W. Corcoran. This brings us to the house of Admiral Wilkes, next to which is my own.

Miss Kerr.

In this way, for the present, my task is done.

Leslie's Popular Monthly, April 1891 Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress

THE EAST SIDE OF THE SQUARE, MADISON PLACE

A. R. Waud Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs

At the suggestion of a friend, Mr. Tayloe, during the dark and gloomy days of the Civil War, was induced to record the following Anecdotes and Reminiscences, to relieve his mind from the depressing influence of the times.

ANECDOTES AND REMINISCENCES.

SOON after the close of the Revolutionary War, General Washington went to Alexandria on horseback, accompanied by his negro servant. The road then used lay through the farm of a desperado who had committed murder, a stranger to the General, the main road having become impassable. As was then the custom, the General had holsters, with pistols in them, to his saddle. On returning to Mount Vernon, as General Washington was about to enter on this private road, a stranger on horseback barred the way, and said to him, "You shall not pass this way." "You don't know me," said the General. "Yes, I do," said the ruffian; "you are General Washington, who commanded the army in the Revolution, and if you attempt to pass me I shall shoot you." General Washington called his servant, Billy, to him, and taking out a pistol, examined the priming, and then handed it to Billy, saying, "If this person shoots me, do you shoot him;" and coolly passed on without molestation. A desperado.

AT Mount Vernon, a guest who slept in an adjacent chamber is reported to have heard a curtain lecture from Mrs. Washington Curtain lecture.

to her lord. The General received it in silence, and at last said, "Good-night, Mrs. Washington," and was heard to turn over in bed.

Mr. Buchanan, when I related the above, remarked that it bore with it internal evidence of its truth.

Jumping-match.

When a youth, Washington was travelling along the Upper Potomac, and stopping at an inn, inquired the news. The landlord told him there was a great jumping-match for a wife, rich Mr. ——'s daughter, in the vicinity. "Is it open to all comers?" asked Washington. On being told it was, he repaired to the jumping-ground. A young man having jumped far beyond all others, the young lady's face brightened. At last, Washington asked if he might try his chance. Permission being given, he was the victor. The young lady's countenance fell. Washington went up to her and remarked, "You would have preferred I had not been the one who excelled the other." The lady candidly admitted it. "Then," said Washington, "I surrender my chance to *him*," and retired as unknown as he came. Towards the close of the Revolution, Washington was entertained by a colonel of militia, whose wife inquired of him, "Did you ever see General Washington before?" "Never," was the reply. "But I have," said his wife. Her husband would not believe it, but at her request reluctantly referred the point in dispute to the General himself. "Yes," said the General; "I saw your wife at the jumping-match, before she was married, and I believe I won her."

During the canvass for the Presidential election in which Jefferson beat Adams, Burr, who was an early riser, met a boy

soon after sunrise with a basketful of pamphlets. Burr stopped him, and inquired, "What have you?" at the same time taking up one of the pamphlets, saying, "I must have one." "No, sir," said the boy; "I have my directions where to leave every one of them." Burr induced him to part with one of them. It was Hamilton's attack on Adams, to show his unfitness for the Presidency, and intended to have been *privately* circulated among the Federalists to promote the election of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, of South Carolina. Burr had the pamphlet published at once in the Democratic newspapers. It went like wildfire, and aided the election of Jefferson and Burr. Theirs was a tie vote, and Burr was near being elected President, because a Federal elector had written his vote for the ballot, preferring him for the Vice-Presidency to Mr. Adams, but on reflection substituted Adams, for fear that his vote might elect Jefferson. The elector, I am informed, was Mr. Coleman, of Pennsylvania.

Chas. Cotesworth Pinckney.

Two years ago, in 1861, at Saratoga, as I was walking with Mr. John C. Hamilton, son of the great Alexander Hamilton, I asked him whose house it was next to his own. "*Burr's*," he said. I could not but remark "on the coincidence, and how strange it was that *Burr* and *Hamilton* should live next door to each other, and on friendly terms." Said John C. Hamilton, "A few days ago I had occasion for a carpenter at my house, an old man, and he told me that he made the effigy of a man's bust, in 1804, the size of life, at which Aaron Burr shot while practicing for the duel with my father."

John C. Hamilton.

Dr. Thornton, an accomplished and benevolent gentleman, is remembered more for his eccentricities and the anecdotes re-

Dr. Thornton.

lated of him than for his well-earned reputation for letters and taste. He was a man of science, and imbued with all the knowledge requisite for the discharge of his duties as head of the Patent Office,—from the time of the administration of Washington to that of Monroe or John Quincy Adams. He claimed to have been the pioneer in the application of steam as a propeller for boats. He made his experiments on the Delaware before Fulton made his on the Hudson. This claim brought the two into collision, and in their quarrels they wrote pamphlets against each other. Fulton charged Thornton with pretending to a knowledge of subjects of which he was ignorant. To quiz him he said, "I have invented the conversion of sawdust into planks." "There is nothing new in that," said Thornton; "I have known of it for a long time." "But," rejoined Fulton, "you never knew of *my* invention—to make *oak* planks out of *pine* sawdust." The Doctor discovered that he was quizzed.

Fulton.

Dr. Thornton told me he killed Fulton by his last pamphlet.

The Capitol.

THORNTON was the architect of the first Capitol at Washington, and laid out some of the public grounds, and arranged the public buildings accordingly. When he sank into the ground, to its *present* grade, the War Department, to the eaves of the building, he was ridiculed for the act—not being understood, and being in advance of the times. He was a wit, a painter, and a poet. My head of Jefferson, by King, is a copy of one by Thornton. His wit and poetry frequently got him into difficulty. Soon after the settlement of Washington a party went into a secluded spot, surrounded by precipitous hills, for the purpose of fighting a duel. One of them exclaimed, "This place will never do! How are we to remove the corpse?" The affair was arranged

without a shot, and one of the principals challenged Dr. Thornton for his ludicrous account of it in verse. The Doctor may have replied, as he did on another occasion, "Damn the fellow, he does not understand wit!" In the latter case, a Mr. Magruder came late to a Fourth of July dinner, when the party were merry over their wine. The Doctor said to him, A wit.

"Mr. Magruder,
You are an intruder."

"You lie!" said the other.
The Doctor rejoined,

"Mr. Magruder,
You are ruder and ruder."

A knock-down blow was the response from Magruder, and as the Doctor rose to his feet he exclaimed, "Damn the fellow, he does not understand wit!"

Dr. Thornton imagined he understood the science of pugilism, and complained of his being knocked down by General Van Ness, before he could assume an attitude. Their quarrel arose from a charge against the Doctor of encroaching on the General's domain,—the former claiming, by the "right of discovery," the flats in the Potomac opposite the property of General Van Ness, with the intention of converting them into an island. Gen. Van Ness.

There has been a mystery to this day in regard to the parentage of the Doctor's wife, a Miss Badeau. Her mother and herself were accomplished English ladies, and particularly well read. There is good authority—among others that of the late Colonel Bomford, who had charge of the family papers—that Mrs.

Dr. Dodd.

Thornton was the daughter of the celebrated Dr. Dodd, executed for forgery in the reign of George the Third. His widow wonderfully kept the secret, and on her arrival in Philadelphia opened a boarding-school for young ladies, which was patronized by the best families in that city. Here Dr. Thornton fell in love with her daughter, and married her, after being informed by her mother of her real name and parentage. The Doctor stood in awe both of his wife and his mother-in-law—allies in taking the domestic reins in their hands, and in their opposition to the Doctor's inclination for the turf, to which he was passionately addicted, and at no small cost to his purse, which was not always able to bear it. On one occasion a suit was brought by him to recover the sum of $3000, the price of a celebrated race-horse, Rattler—the defendant contending that he was broken down before he was sold, and that the sale was an imposition. The

Lawsuit.

distinguished Walter Jones defended Dr. Thornton, with his usual ability. A wag present wrote the following distich:

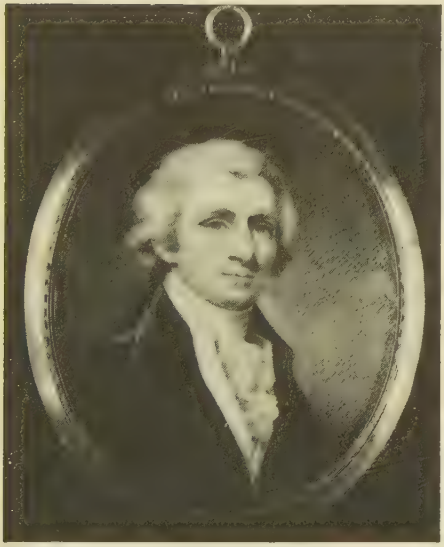
"With his horses unfed, he loses his races;
With his lawyers unfeed, he loses his cases."

In his benevolence, Dr. Thornton was sometimes a loser. Seeing a man beating his wife, he knocked the man down; when the wife united with her husband in an assault upon the Doctor, who came off second best, more particularly as he was afterwards sued for assault and battery, and mulcted in damages for having struck the first blow.

Dr. Thornton was a native of Tortola, in the West Indies, and was educated in England and Scotland. He entertained a cordial hatred against the French and the Bonapartes. He pre-

William Thornton American Institute of Architects.

William Thornton's winning design in the 1792 Capitol Competition.

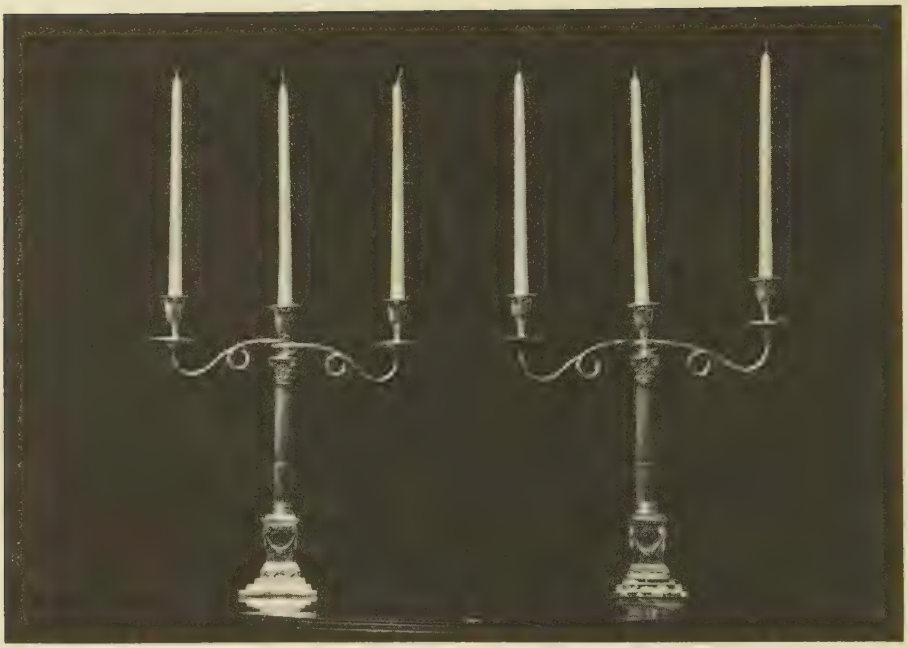


R. Field National Portrait Gallery.

DR. WILLIAM THORNTON

Gilbert Stuart National Gallery of Art.

ANNA MARIA BRODEAU THORNTON

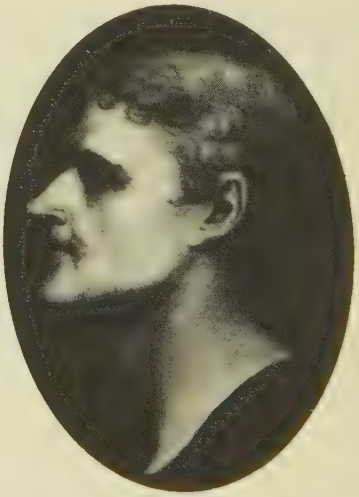


Wm. Edmund Barrett photograph — Owned by a descendant in Washington

THOMAS JEFFERSON'S CANDELABRA

When Jefferson was American Minister to France, and a recent widower, he lost most of his possessions in a Paris fire. At his request these candelabra were bought for him in England by Abigail Adams, whose husband was then American Minister there.

Diplomatic Reception Rooms
U.S. Department of State



In 1815, Dr. Thornton borrowed from Jefferson Gilbert Stuart's third life portrait which the neo-classicist Jefferson had commissioned in 1805 in the medallion form, *later referring to it as* the head à la antique. *Thornton copied the profile portrait several times.*

dicted the overthrow of Napoleon, who, he said, was a coward, and at Lodi stood behind a statue, and at Arcole was forced to the front by the troops in the rear, and at Marengo had Desaix shot in order to appropriate the honors of the day to himself. While Joseph Bonaparte was fighting for the throne of Spain, the Doctor became the owner of a Spanish Jack, and named him "King Joe." On giving a pass to a servant travelling with the animal, he described him in it as follows: Napoleon.

"This is my Ass,
Do let him pass;
His name is King Joe,
A *great* Ass—oh! ho!
And *without Jo-King*,
As great an ass as going."

Dr. Thornton for eight years was the next-door neighbor to Mr. Madison, when Secretary of State, occupying the present residence of Dr. Miller, on F Street.

This day, December 18th, 1863, I have been reading the last volume of Washington Irving's "Life and Letters." I had the pleasure of his acquaintance in London and in this country. While abroad, I was once his partner at whist, and he nearly fell asleep. He was wide awake at a small dinner-party of about eight, at the Messrs. Hoffman, in Bedford Square, London, in 1818, where I met Washington Allston and Leslie, his special friends, who kept Irving agoing with his stories in the Sketch-book style, before their publication. The dinner was a delightful one. Irving.

In the summer of 1833, I made a call, in company with Mr. Tillman, of Troy, on the Hon. Herman Knickerbocker, at his

The Prince of Scaghticoke.

residence in Scaghticoke, New York. The "Prince," as he was usually styled, entertained us handsomely with champagne. While engaged in our libations, other visitors were announced, and the Prince withdrew to receive them. He shortly returned, and announced to us that his new guests were Washington Irving and Mr. McCracken, of New York, on their way to Saratoga, and as he had only three champagne glasses, he begged as a great favor that we would surrender ours to his newly-arrived visitors. To this reasonable request we of course cheerfully acceded, and Messrs. Irving and McCracken being introduced, we spent a delightful hour. The Prince was a character in his way, and many exquisite passages of wit and humor passed between him and his distinguished guest, Mr. Irving.

The Prince of Scaghticoke was the original of Diederich Knickerbocker's "cousin, the Congressman."

Gov. Letcher.

GOVERNOR LETCHER, of Kentucky, a few days before the election of Mr. Buchanan to the Presidency, related to me, in the Girard House, Philadelphia, the following account of an interview held by him with General Jackson, with the purpose of preventing the latter from carrying into execution his threat to *hang Mr. Calhoun* for his participation in the Nullification movement:

Mr. Clay.

Mr. Clay came and said, "Unless *we* prevent it, I really fear General Jackson will hang Calhoun. The subject is before the Cabinet; *all* are opposed to it, yet not one dares to raise his voice in opposition to General Jackson's wish. This has been conveyed to me with a view of saving Calhoun. *I* cannot appear in the matter, but *you* can. You are the man to go to General Jackson and have a plain talk with him." (Referring to the friendship

of Jackson towards Letcher's family for having sheltered Mrs. Robards, afterwards Mrs. Jackson, when she escaped from her husband's brutality, while they lived in Kentucky. Wherefore, when General Jackson became President, he said to Letcher, "Whatever our political differences may be, I shall always be *your* friend, never forgetting the kindness of your family, and its risks too, in defence of my wife.") So Letcher went to General Jackson in the cause of Calhoun, and commenced the interview with an allusion to his personal regard and his desire that General Jackson should preserve his distinguished reputation, which might be impaired in the event of a civil war, besides the infliction of a great evil upon the whole country, were *he* to be the means of having Mr. Calhoun executed. The General expressed his gratitude to Mr. Letcher, but inquired, "Do you not think Calhoun deserves the gallows?" Mrs. Jackson.

Mr. L.—"I will not deny that; but the question is the effect upon the country, *your* administration, and *your* reputation."

Gen. J.—"As Calhoun deserves punishment, what would you have me do?" Calhoun.

Mr. L.—"Postpone your decision. Take time for cool reflection, and consult your friends in the Cabinet individually, and your true friends, in whom you confide."

After a long interview, General Jackson said he would follow the counsel of Mr. Letcher, adding, "Good advice, but Calhoun ought to be hung." Mr. Letcher remarked to me, "That was enough. I was sure the Cabinet and others would give him the same counsel, and that it would save Calhoun, whose life I believed in great peril at the time of my interference."

At that time General Jackson was all-powerful, and ruled as a despot. Whatever he did, a large majority of the people, even in New England, believed to be right.

Mr. Adams.

BEFORE General Jackson's quarrel with Mr. Calhoun, I was told of the course of the latter in Mr. Monroe's Cabinet, relative to General Jackson's conduct in the Seminole War, by Dr. Huntt, when employed as a physician in Mr. Adams's family. In a conversation with him in regard to General Jackson's proscriptive policy as President, Mr. Adams remarked, "It is strange *he* should be hostile to *me*, his advocate in the Cabinet when opposed by Mr. Calhoun, his present friend, who at the time referred to was under such apprehensions that, to use his own language, he dreaded the arrival of every mail."

Mr. Monroe.

TENCH RINGGOLD, Marshal of the District of Columbia under Monroe and Adams, wished to be retained in office under General Jackson. Mr. Monroe, to aid Mr. Ringgold in his endeavor, called upon General Jackson, and asked of him this favor, adding that when President himself he had never refused any favor to him. With both hands General Jackson took one of Mr. Monroe's in his, and exclaimed, "Don't mention it! don't mention it!" This being told by Mr. Monroe to Mr. Ringgold, the latter considered himself safe in his office. On his removal he complained of General Jackson's breach of faith to Mr. Monroe. When this complaint reached the General's ears, he said, "So far from it, I told Jim Monroe *not to mention it* to me." Emphasis and tone of voice are sometimes deceptive.

A FRIEND of mine who was in company with General Jackson's family when the news of his defeat in the election by the House, in 1825, was communicated to him, heard him coolly respond, "I knew it would be so a week ago. That scoundrel Clay has

stocked the cards." Mrs. Jackson observed, "It is best as it is. We shall all be so happy at the Hermitage." Mrs. Jackson.

WHILE Mr. Calhoun was associated with the Whigs in opposition to Jackson and Van Buren, I dined with Mr. Waggaman, Senator from Louisiana, in company with Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Clay, Mr. Leigh, Mr. Mangum, and Mr. George C. Washington. In the course of conversation, Mr. Calhoun poured out scathing anathemas upon Mr. Van Buren, implying his baseness, and that upon the whole he was a mean, pitiful fellow. Mr. Clay playfully defended him, and for his good temper, which had prevented his resenting insults. Mr. Calhoun emphatically and somewhat indignantly replied, "A man without indignation is a man without principle!" Mr. Calhoun.

Yet when Mr. Van Buren became President, Mr. Calhoun allied himself with him and visited him, declaring in the Senate that his "personal followed his political relations."

In his whole Senatorial career, Mr. Calhoun opposed every appropriation for the city of Washington, as if for an object.

MR. VAN BUREN'S espousal of the cause of Mrs. Eaton made General Jackson his friend for life. Mr. Van Buren got up parties among his friends in honor of Mrs. Eaton. Mr. Calhoun's friends in the Cabinet were opposed to her, and this led to a dissolution of the Cabinet. Mr. Buchanan had forfeited the favor of General Jackson for not standing up to the mark on the "bargain and intrigue" story, but he became a favorite for his devotion to Mrs. Eaton from the time he led her to the head of the dance at a public ball in Washington. Mrs. Eaton.

On her marriage to Signor Buchinani, the priest said to her, "Your husband's name is nearly that of the President." Mrs. Eaton replied, "I might have married Mr. Buchanan, but I preferred Signor Buchinani."

Mr. Buchanan.

WHEN it appeared likely that Mr. Buchanan would be elected to the Presidency, Governor Letcher, of Kentucky, said to me, "Mark my words; on leaving the Presidential chair, Mr. Buchanan will be the best-abused man who *ever* filled it. I know him well, and all about the bargain story, but it would do no good to make revelations now, and I have no unkind feelings toward Mr. Buchanan. He wrote me soliciting my silence."

Crazy Lawrence.

MR. VAN BUREN had told me of Lawrence's insanity, of *their* conversation about his being defrauded by the United States Bank, having made a large deposit there, he being "the heir to the English throne," and of his meeting him when alone with the President in his council-chamber, and of his intimating *then* to General Jackson that Lawrence's head was unsound—therefore he was bowed out of the room. Some days after, as the cortège were about to descend the Capitol steps, at the funeral of the Hon. Warren Davis, of South Carolina, "Crazy Lawrence" snapped two pistols, the caps exploding, at General Jackson, a few paces distant. Lawrence was immediately seized

Captain Gedney.

and secured by Captain Gedney, of the Navy. General Jackson manifested great coolness, and begged the crowd to stand off, and he could defend himself, at the same time brandishing his heavy walking-stick. I was behind one of the pillars, and heard the explosion without seeing the act. "How dreadful!" exclaimed the Hon. Isaac McKim, of Baltimore; "he might have

shot an innocent man." General Hunter, the Marshal, at once took Lawrence to the jail. On their way there, Lawrence told him "the President would not have justice done him" in the recovery of his money from the United States Bank, that he was heir to the throne of England, &c., &c., as he had told Mr. Van Buren. Yet on the same day, at a dinner given by Colonel Campbell, M. C. from South Carolina, Mr. Van Buren, on my adverting to these circumstances, when I chanced to converse with him apart from the company, replied, "He is not the same man at all," and rather abruptly left me. Lawrence, adhering to his crazy imagination, died in jail, a maniac. Yet General Jackson expressed his belief that Lawrence had been hired by Governor Poindexter to assassinate him, and instituted an inquiry which led to Governor Poindexter, in the Senate, asking for a committee of investigation, which cleared him from any complicity in the affair. I never heard that Mr. Van Buren revealed a word on the subject. General Jackson, as all the world knows, was very anxious to convict Poindexter.

Colonel Campbell.

Poindexter.

At the jail, with new caps to the pistols, Major Donelson fired them, and the balls passed through the thick plank fencing, ten paces off.

Mr. Parton does not narrate the Rev. Mr. Campbell's relation to the Eaton *imbroglio* exactly as it occurred. I will narrate it as Mr. Campbell described it to me:—He said he was "no politician," and would scarce have thought about the formation of General Jackson's Cabinet, certainly not have "interfered about it," had not his friend, Rev. Mr. Ely, of Philadelphia, for whom he had great respect, come to him with inquiries about Mrs. Eaton, saying to him that he made them as the *friend of General Jackson, to save him* and the cause of morality, as *both*

Rev. Mr. Campbell

would sustain injury, were Major Eaton to have a place in the President's Cabinet. Mr. Campbell, *in confidence*, to oblige Mr. Ely, told him all he knew about the matter, as reported by Parton. But he makes a mistake in the narration of the interview between Mr. Campbell, the President, and his Cabinet. The General, Mr. Campbell told me, endeavored to persuade him to admit what he knew to be untrue. Mr. Van Buren blandly urged Mr. Campbell to make the admission. The latter replied that he could not do it consistently with truth. He was then

General Jackson.

grossly insulted by General Jackson, who charged him with falsehood, and approaching him brandished the manuscript from which he had been reading, as if he intended to strike him. But on Mr. Campbell's not retreating nor attempting any defence, standing with his arms folded against his breast, General Jackson sank into a chair beside him, as if ashamed of himself. Mr. Campbell then bowed, and wished the President and his Cabinet "Good morning." The President had himself invited him to this interview.

Mr. Campbell was a native of Virginia, and spent the last thirty years of his life in Albany, New York, as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church; renowned as a pulpit orator and theologian.

Mr. Webster.

I HEARD Daniel Webster speak with scorn of both the Adamses. He remarked, "They had been faithless to their friends and their principles, and had no more sense of gratitude than a cat."

It was my good fortune to hear several of Webster's table-talks, in the Johnsonian style, some Boswell setting him off. He spoke in monologue, narrating anecdotes. Here is one:

One morning, in London, after a breakfast with Rogers, he

left the house in company with the celebrated Sydney Smith, and as they passed the door of Lord Brougham, Smith proposed a call, to which Mr. Webster assented. On entering, Smith introduced Mr. Webster as "Mr. Clay." Now Mr. Clay had lately denounced Lord Brougham in the United States Senate. Mr. Webster said, "Lord Brougham did not say a word to Mr. Clay, nor Mr. Clay to Lord Brougham." Smith and Webster continued their walk together, and their talk, into St. James's Park. Suddenly the former became silent, and then asked Mr. Webster, "Did not I introduce you to Lord Brougham as Mr. Clay?" "Certainly, you did," said Webster. Smith soon afterward made an excuse for leaving Mr. Webster, and when the latter returned to the hotel, he found Lord Brougham's card inscribed "for Mr. Webster." Afterwards he had intimate and most agreeable relations with Lord Brougham.

Sydney Smith.

Brougham.

My opulent and munificent friend and neighbor, Mr. William W. Corcoran, after the perusal of Webster's celebrated March speech in defence of the Constitution and of Southern rights, inclosed to Mrs. Webster her husband's note for $10,000, given him for a loan to that amount. Mr. Webster met Mr. Corcoran the same evening, at the President's, and thanked him for the "princely favor." Next day he addressed to Mr. Corcoran a letter of thanks, which I read at Mr. Corcoran's request.

Mr. Corcoran.

Mr. Corcoran's house, with all its costly furniture and art treasures, was most unjustifiably seized by the Secretary of War, in 1862, as a hospital for the soldiers. By some magic, the French Minister, Mons. Mercier, telegraphed from New York that the house was his. Afterwards, on his going to the State Department, Governor Seward asked the Minister "if the French

Mr. Seward.

Walter Paris Privately owned

Commodore John Rodgers built this house in 1831 on a lot which Henry Clay traded him for a valuable jackass. It became a fashionable boarding house, later "the Club House" *of the Sickles scandal. William Henry Seward was its next resident and Lincoln frequently sought its privacy for Cabinet meetings.*

Governor Seward, while Secretary of State, occupied the house adjacent to that of Mr. Tayloe, on La Fayette Square. On the eventful night of Good Friday, 1865, when Governor Seward narrowly escaped death at the hand of Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Tayloe were the first persons who entered the house, immediately after the assault. They remained with him all night, administering whatever consolation and relief was possible to the suffering members of the household.

William Worth Belknap, Grant's disgraced Secretary of War, and James G. Blaine were later occupants. It was demolished in 1894 and replaced by the famous Lafayette Square Opera House, later called the Belasco. Today its site is the entrance to the National Courts building.

Walter Paris

Privately owned

Lieutenant General Winfield Scott was a Virginia-born military leader who served from Jefferson's administration through Lincoln's. In 1874 this statue was erected on the circle that bears his name, where Rhode Island and Massachusetts Avenues cross 16th Street. The statue was cast from cannon he captured while commander of the Mexican War. From this he emerged enough of a hero to be the Whig presidential candidate but he lost to Franklin Pierce. Tayloe wrote: "General Scott never appeared better than after his defeat; always reticent and dignified. The General was always at church devout and reverential. He came to dine with us one Sunday, in the summer of 1857, when there was a terrifying hailstorm, killing cattle, breaking the thick glass of the Capitol, and passing through our own windows like bullets. The General seemed greatly impressed and solemnized. Dinner was delayed. When the storm was over, we cooled our champagne with hailstones; bowl after bowl being brought in, of what the General called 'celestial ice'."

Mons. Mercier.

flag was broad enough to cover Mr. Corcoran's house?" "If it is not," Mons. Mercier replied, "we will make it so."

Some American writer has sarcastically remarked that among the turfmen of England, no American horse was known (until lately), except Sir Archy, and no distinguished man of America, besides Washington. Both of them, it will be remembered, were of Virginian birth. Our great general, Scott, was also to the manor born. Other coincidences between him and Washington have been shown,—both over six feet high, they alone having the rank of Lieutenant-General in our army, &c.

Wellington.

After his Cortez-like conquest of Mexico, but without cruelty or inhumanity—his boast being to save blood—the Duke of Wellington said of General Scott, "He is the first general now living." This was said, too, during the lifetime of Marshal Soult, Napoleon's first general, and of Marshal Radetzky, the first general of the present age of Austria, whose Italian laurels were at that time in full bloom.

There is one other coincidence between Generals Washington and Scott that has been overlooked:

Washington.

Thackeray, in his "Virginians," relates that "it was strange," in America, "a young Virginian officer should fire a shot, and waken up a war which was to last for sixty years, which was to cover his own country, and pass into Europe, to cost France her American Colonies, to sever ours from us, and create the great Western Republic; to rage over the old world when extinguished in the new; and of all the myriads engaged in the vast contest, to leave the prize of *the greatest fame* with him" (Washington) "who struck the first blow."

In somewhat like manner, preliminary to the last war with

England, soon after the wanton attack upon the Chesapeake frigate, in 1807, it was the lot of young Scott, then twenty-one years old, a private in the Virginia troop of horse, with the temporary rank of corporal, to strike "the first blow" by the capture, with less force, of a boat from the Admiral's flag-ship, with its crew and two midshipmen, that had landed on the shore of Virginia, on a foraging expedition. The middies were young Scott's prisoners, and were entertained by him for some weeks in camp with genuine Virginian hospitality. They became sworn friends. Some eight years thereafter, in 1815, with the rank of Major-General in our army, conferred on him for his glorious achievement at Chippewa, it chanced to General Scott to meet at the table of a nobleman in England, his relative, a Commander in the British navy. He stared at the General even beyond the rules of courtesy, for a long time, and, at length, modestly inquired of him, "May I presume to ask, though I scarce suppose it can be so, if Corporal Scott, my captor in Virginia, is of your family?" "I am the identical person," replied the General, "but was not a corporal, only for the nonce, but a simple private, and am glad to meet you again." The feeling was reciprocal. The enemies in war were friends in peace, and again, after an interval of years, the two early belligerents had a merry time together, but transferred from a rude camp in Virginia to a lordly hall of an English nobleman.

The Chesapeake.

Corporal Scott.

Although the political sceptre has departed from Judah, yet the "Old Dominion," proud as she is, and has a right to be, of her history and of her sons, has yet "some few of the same sort left," excepting, only, her two incomparable generals.

When General Scott was promoted to be a Brigadier-General, he was in command at Greenbush, opposite Albany. Mr. Van

Buren, then a resident of Albany, gave a supper-party in honor of the occasion, at which Scott was, of course, the chief guest. When the company were about to go to the supper-room, Mr. Van Buren informed them that he was embarrassed by the unexpected arrival of a guest whom he had been accustomed to entertain, Colonel Burr, who had recently arrived from Boston on his return from Europe, but he could not invite him to join them without their consent. General Scott, being referred to, said he had no objection to Colonel Burr's company. The other gentlemen concurred. Colonel Burr was then invited in, and introduced to the party. At supper he was placed next to General Scott, to whom he was very civil and complimentary, congratulating him on his rapid promotion as likely to lead to victory, and then said, "There is an officer, who, if placed at the head of the army, would soon finish the war; but Mr. Madison will not appoint *him* on account of his connection with me. I allude to Andrew Jackson, of Tennessee." Colonel Burr then expatiated at some length on the military talents of Jackson, who was at that time comparatively unknown to General Scott or the country. These remarks of Colonel Burr were subsequently recalled to the recollection of General Scott by Jackson's brilliant victory at New Orleans. More than sixteen years elapsed before Scott and Burr met again. In the meantime, Burr had been the first to nominate General Jackson publicly for the Presidency. After his election, Scott and Burr met again, on a steamer, and Burr reminded him of their conversation about General Jackson at Van Buren's supper, and then inquired of Scott if he ever saw General Jackson. Scott replied that when in Washington it was often his duty to call on him. "Does he ever say anything about me?" inquired Burr. "Never," replied Scott. Some time after this, Colonel Burr,

Aaron Burr.

Jackson.

on meeting General Scott again, informed him that he had been to Washington, and had called on General Jackson, who received him very coolly, and added, "Like others, he has considered it politic to drop my acquaintance."

General Scott informed me that he recollected General Jackson's defence of Burr and his abuse of Jefferson, during Burr's trial at Richmond, when he ranted to the people from the piazza of a tavern, like a crazy man, amusing some and disgusting others with his profanity. Aaron Burr.

General Scott told me that when he was ordered to command the force in opposition to nullification, at Charleston, he called to see General Jackson, to receive his last instructions. In the course of conversation, the General said he should be glad to have the opinion of Mr. Adams about Calhoun. "If that be your wish," said Scott, "I can obtain it for you in a few minutes." "I wish you would," replied General Jackson. General Scott at once repaired to the residence of Mr. Adams, and said to him, "The President wishes to have your opinion on the course Mr. Calhoun will pursue in this nullification affair." "He will back out, sir; he will back out, sir," said Mr. Adams. "I shall so report your opinion to the President," said General Scott. "I have no objection, sir," said Mr. Adams. The report being made, General Jackson at once said to General Scott, "Then go ahead!" So he did, but in his own way, and the nullification storm blew over. Adams. Calhoun.

After General Scott's capture of Vera Cruz, in separate conversations with three of the foreign ministers at Washington, they told me that each had been on a mission to Mexico, and Mexico.

Santa Anna.

that General Scott must be defeated before he could reach the capital. Mr. Pakenham, the English Minister, said General Santa Anna is a man of great abilities, a superior general, and a brave one, too, who "will never turn tail," to use his own words. After Santa Anna's inglorious escape from Cerro Gordo, I inquired of Mr. Pakenham what was his opinion now of General Santa Anna. He replied rather brusquely, "Would you have him to be such a fool as to suffer himself to be captured? He had nothing left for it, but to get off as well as he could."

Mr. Calderon de la Barca, from Spain, said to me, "There are no better troops in the world, nor better drilled and armed, than the Mexicans; that when General Scott reached Puebla he would meet a warlike people, very different from those he had encountered."

Baron Gerolt told me nearly the same thing, preparing me to expect defeat, saying, "he knew Mexico well." I have since learned that the foreign residents here adopted these opinions very generally.

James Brooks.

At Paris, in 1867, Captain George A. Magruder, formerly of the United States Navy, came in. He spoke of Mr. James Brooks, of the "New York Express," as the cleverest man of the Opposition at the North. He said the North in 1861 was looking to Scott, and that it was very important that he should express an opinion that one state could not coerce another, an opinion he had already strongly expressed to Mr. Seward in an excellent letter. But this was not then known. Mr. Brooks asked Captain Magruder if he knew General Scott well. Captain Magruder replied, "I have known him from a boy. My uncle and guardian, Colonel Bankhead, was his most intimate friend." It was then agreed that Captain Magruder should go to General Scott,

and ask him if he would answer a letter addressed to him, and express such opinions. On his way, Captain Magruder stopped at Mrs. Ulrich's to see what Mr. Rives thought of it. He approved it highly, and said, "You can tell General Scott for me that such an expression from him would do much toward bringing back his old friends in Virginia." The Captain found General Scott very kind and conciliatory; had no objections to express such opinions, as they were his convictions. Unfortunately the Captain quoted Mr. Rives. General Scott was at once greatly excited. "They have outraged me!" "Virginia has threatened to take away my sword," &c., &c., and said his opinions already expressed were sufficient. The whole thing was up. Strange they should not have known the General better! Mr. Rives.

Governor Marcy, after his retirement from office, related to me many anecdotes in connection with his public life. He had no respect for the character or capacity of President Polk, and asserted that he was very hostile both to General Scott and General Taylor, and that but for himself General Scott would not have had the command of the army in Mexico. Governor Marcy plainly told Mr. Polk that as Secretary of War he would not intrust his own reputation to any other general. "If you will get Colonel Benton's assent, I will appoint him," said Mr. Polk. Governor Marcy then called upon Colonel Benton, and informed him he had been sent by the President to inquire what general he thought ought to have the command. Benton began with the lowest on the army list, to each of whom he answered alike, "He will not do," referring among others to Worth, Wool, Jesup, Taylor, condemning all until he came to Scott. About him Governor Marcy made no inquiry, but merely remarked, "You have condemned all but General Scott," and returned with Mr. Polk.

that statement to the President, who at once appointed Scott to the command of the army in Mexico. The sequel is known.

After the battle of Cerro Gordo, the news of which reached Washington on a day when President Polk had a reception, Colonel J. Graham, who attended it, congratulated the President on the glorious news. His response was, "Our brave fellows conquer under any kind of leader."

Major Lomax.

During the war of 1812, Major Mann Page Lomax, when acting Adjutant-General to General Wilkinson, near the St. Lawrence River, was sent blindfolded within the British lines, on a message of duty. He dined with the British mess. At table toasts were drunk. A British officer gave, "Mr. Madison, dead or alive." When his turn came, Major Lomax gave, "The Prince Regent, drunk or sober." The giver of the first toast jumped up and fiercely asked, "Do you intend that for an insult?" Lomax coolly replied, "A return for one." With this Roland for an Oliver the matter dropped.

Gen. Butler.

The daughters of Major Lomax were lately (1863) arrested by Colonel Fish, the Provost Marshal at Baltimore, on the charge of entertaining a spy—a poor crippled and imbecile boy, to whom, in charity, the ladies had given food and a night's lodging. The injustice of the charge was called to the attention of Colonel Fish, who acknowledged the error he had made, and had the ladies released from confinement at Fortress Monroe, where they were kindly treated by General B. F. Butler, and sent back to their home in Baltimore. He admitted it "was all a mistake."

John Barney. JOHN BARNEY, formerly M. C. from the Baltimore district, used to say he had conversed with the two greatest men of the age. That, as a youth, he met General Washington not far from town, when about to ride into Baltimore. Young Barney rode alongside of the President, and the latter inquired his name. He told him he was the son of Captain Barney of the Navy, since known as Commodore Barney. Washington kindly conversed with him as they rode along.

Napoleon. Early in the present century, Barney, still a youth, went to Paris to complete his education. Napoleon was then First Consul, and Barney was anxious to see him. Mrs. Henry Walter Livingston, a beautiful woman, wife to the Secretary of the American Legation, indulged his wish by allowing him to accompany her to St. Cloud. On arrival there, Barney was instructed where to wait in the garden. Very soon Napoleon came there with Mrs. Livingston on his arm. Barney went up to them, and looked Napoleon in the face and walked by his side. "Who are you?" said the great man. Barney told him, and added, "I have seen the greatest man of America, Washington, and I wished to see the greatest man of Europe," bowing to the First Consul. "That will do," said Napoleon, with a smile, at the same time patting Barney on the shoulder. They walked on together a little further, and then with a gesture to indicate his wish, Napoleon said, "That will do; you may go." No further hint was necessary.

Jeffrey. IN the last Queen's speech (1864) it is remarked that no reference is made to this country. When the distinguished Lord Jeffrey, then Mr. Francis Jeffrey, of the "Edinburgh Review," and recently married to Miss Wilkes, of New York, was in this country, during the war of 1812, he was presented to

Mr. Madison, who inquired, "What is thought of our war in England?" "It is not thought of at all," was the curt reply.

Mr. Madison.

Jeffrey did injustice to Mr. Madison, who was a courtly and most respectable gentleman, who would have been held in high honor in every respect had he been a peer of England. "Mr. Madison," said Jeffrey, "reminded me of a schoolmaster dressed up for a funeral." Mr. Madison in that respect, unlike John Quincy Adams, had nothing of the schoolmaster about him, but in appearance and dress, and for his courtly manners, was as unmistakable a gentleman as Pitt, or any premier of Great Britain.

Colonel Byrd.

Colonel Byrd, of Westover, in Virginia, was in London during the reign of George the Second, and took, in a club-house there, a bet for ten thousand guineas on a card, offered by the Duke of Cumberland, the king's son, and commander-in-chief of the army. Byrd won the bet, and retired from the table. Before separating, the Duke said to him, "You are a stranger to me, and we have a rule of the club, as you may not know, that no bet is paid until it is ascertained that the winner could pay in case of losing. Will you therefore be so good as to refer me to your banker?" "Certainly, your Grace," replied Byrd, "and I consider the rule a very proper one." Byrd at once wrote a note referring the Duke to his banker, which was promptly answered, "I will accept Colonel Byrd's draft for ten thousand guineas, or for ten times the sum." General Scott adds to the above that the Duke avoided the payment of his debts of honor when allowed to do so. This, Byrd would not permit, and as the Duke delayed payment, had it intimated to him that he was ready to meet him in the field, and would expose him if he did not pay the money, which was paid.

General Scott.

It is said that Colonel Byrd made the tour of Europe with the proceeds of that bet, and did not play again while abroad, but eventually lost his fortune at the gambling-table, in Virginia.

Mr. Everett.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS was invited to dine by Mr. Everett, Secretary of State, in 1853. Mr. Sartiges, the French Minister, lived next door to Mr. Everett, on G Street, in the Wirt house. Mr. Stephens, by mistake, entered the house of Mr. Sartiges. The full number of invited guests had arrived. Mr. Sartiges had not invited Mr. Stephens, so he inquired of that gentleman if he had any business with him. The latter, astonished, replied he had not. Again Mr. Sartiges made the same inquiry, and received the same reply. At last Mr. Stephens exclaimed to a gentleman with whom he was acquainted, "In the name of heaven, what does that little Frenchman mean by annoying me in this way?" At last Mr. Stephens was informed that he was in the house of the French Minister, which he hurriedly left, and found Mr. Everett waiting dinner for him, next door.

Mr. Sartiges.

Wm. R. Giles.

WILLIAM B. GILES, of Virginia, and JUDGE DUVAL, of Maryland, were members of Congress during the administration of Washington, and boarded in Philadelphia with Mrs. Gibbon, whose daughter was neither young nor taciturn. Mr. Giles, as Senator, and Mr. Duval, as Comptroller of the Treasury, met again in Washington at the beginning of Jefferson's administration. They were happy in the revival of old times, until Mr. Giles inquired of Duval, "What has become of that d—d cackling old maid, Jenny Gibbon?" "She is Mrs. Duval, sir," was the reply.

Judge Duval.

Fine Arts Commission

THE CITY HOTEL, LATER WILLARD'S, AT 14TH STREET AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

From the Willard Bradley Memoirs, Privately Printed 1925: Among the (Hudson River Steamboat) travelers was Miss Phoebe Warren, a pretty daughter of one of Troy's most exclusive families. She was the *fiancée* of Mr. Benjamin Ogle Tayloe, of Washington, D.C., whom she afterwards married. Mr. Tayloe was the owner of the old City Hotel, which was in a rundown condition, and he had great trouble in having it properly managed. He happened to remark to Miss Warren that he wished he could find a suitable young man to take hold of the property. Miss Warren immediately answered: "Mr. Tayloe, I know just the young man you want—Henry Willard, the steward of the Hudson River Steamer Niagara." So it happened that Henry Willard came to Washington in October, 1847, first leasing Mr. Tayloe's hotel property and soon afterwards purchasing the same.

Other remarkable personages besides Lord and Lady Napier, that were guests of (Willard's) hotel, were Jenny Lind, whose first concert in Washington was held at the National Theatre under the management of Edwin Dorr Willard; the famous comedian, Dion Boucicault; and Captain Hudson, who laid the Atlantic Cable and received in appreciation from Queen

Victoria, a "magnificent gold snuff-box;" he boarded one winter there and indulged in the "pigeon wing" at the hops. S. B. W. to W. C. B.
1859, February 23
Willard-Bradley Memoirs

Lord Napier came to Washington as H.B.M. Minister in the early part of Mr. Buchanan's administration, and remained there for three years. Lord and Lady Napier were especial favorites in Washington society. They were on terms of the closest intimacy with Mr. and Mrs. Tayloe, who held them both in the highest esteem.

In May, 1858, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Rives invited Lord and Lady Napier and Mr. and Mrs. Tayloe to visit them at their residence, Castle Hill, in Albemarle County, Virginia. Mrs. Tayloe was prevented by her care of her aged and invalid mother from accepting the invitation, and Lord Napier was unable to leave Washington on the appointed day. Mr. Tayloe therefore escorted Lady Napier.

MY DEAR MRS. TAYLOE:

My wife has just shown me your kind note, by which I learn that Mr. Tayloe had intended to give us the pleasure of his company this evening to dinner; this makes me fear that I may have asked Mr. Tayloe verbally to an abortive dinner-party to-night, and forgotten all about it. If so, I beg his pardon most sincerely. I have dined at 2 o'clock. The cook is gone away. No more dinner is to be had. Perhaps I may have invited others to meet Mr. Tayloe. I live in momentary dread that a guest will appear at the door. Indeed, I am engaged to go out in the evening, and my wife is rather unwell, and is going to bed.

I will call on Mr. Tayloe, however, and offer him the expression of my deep regret if I have been guilty of some mistake.

Believe me, my dear Mrs. Tayloe,
Yours, very truly,

NAPIER

P.S.—We are all much shocked and affected by this dreadful incident.

[The P.S. refers to the death of Barton Key at the hand of Sickles—wherefore B.O.T. had sent an apology for declining to dine with Lord N.; having been invited by *Lady* Napier.]

MY DEAR KIND FRIEND:

Our suspense is at an end; we *are* going, and have been appointed to the Hague. Lord Lyons (his father is just dead) succeeds us. Lord Malmesbury's letter is kind and complimentary, and he thinks we shall not dislike the change. Of course to me it has family advantages. I shall see my boys both at midsummer and Christmas holidays—the Hague being so very near our own country, and I shall not be separated this summer from my dear husband; and if we all live we shall be all together next Christmas as well as this, which we hardly dare hope for. Nevertheless, you know I am grieved to leave you and a country where I have met with so much kindness.

Ever yours,

NINA NAPIER

Columbia Historical Society

DINNER TO HONOR THE NAPIERS AT WILLARD'S

In 1843 and 1844 Mr. Tayloe enlarged and improved the hotel now known as Willards which he had inherited from his father, and thus materially promoted the prosperity of that section of Washington by which it is environed. From that day this hotel became the fashionable hotel of the city, and was annually thronged with visitors from every section of the country.

There was a dinner given in honor of Lord Napier, which was the most famous in Washington up to that date.

> "One of the ornaments of the table . . . . is over five feet high and emblematical of America, with beautiful little paintings all over it."

Willard Bradley Memoirs

Mr. Jefferson.

During Mr. Jefferson's administration, party spirit ran very high, threatening disunion, civil and foreign wars. The feeling in administration circles towards England and Spain was very hostile. The American Minister and his lady were treated with great disrespect in England, always being assigned the lowest places at the tables of Cabinet Ministers. Mr. Jefferson determined, as President, to resent this by following the example of the Court of St. James. On the arrival of Mr. Merry, in 1804, as H. B. M. Minister, he was invited, with Mrs. Merry, to dine with the President. The members of his Cabinet, with their wives, were present, and occupied the seats of honor above Mr. and Mrs. Merry. The example was followed by Mr. Madison, the Secretary of State, when he entertained Mr. and Mrs. Merry. The Marchioness D'Yrujo, wife to the Spanish Minister, a beautiful woman, daughter of Governor McKean, of Pennsylvania, spoke with much feeling to Mrs. Madison on the subject, after dinner, in the drawing-room, and remarked, "This will be cause of war." So I was informed by Mrs. Madison in after years.

Mr. Madison.

Mrs. Madison.

The Napiers.

Mr. Buchanan, as President, imitated the example of Mr. Jefferson, at his first entertainment of Lord and Lady Napier. Mr. Buchanan handed *Miss* Cass to table, Governor Cobb Lady Napier, and Lord Napier Madame Sartiges, an American. Mrs. Tayloe and myself were present, and observed the chagrin of the well-disciplined lady, who afterwards acknowledged it to us, and both Lord Napier and herself talked freely to us on the subject.

Mr. Sartiges.

Mr. Sartiges, French Minister in 1852–3, was a great stickler for etiquette. At a large dinner at Mr. E. Riggs's, he conducted to the table the most beautiful and the only young lady of the company, Miss Dulany, who had been celebrated by the notice of Washington Irving. She was agreeable, too, in conversation. Mr. Sartiges was then unmarried. At dinner he did not speak

to the lady, and after dinner he complained to his host of disrespect, in not being allotted to one of the married ladies, preferring, perhaps, some Senator's wife. In the drawing-room he manifested his displeasure by his disrespect to the company, by turning his back to the fire, around which the ladies were seated, with the skirts of his coat over his arms. This I saw.

Prince Napoleon.

Prince Napoleon, I have been told, did nearly the same thing at Governor Seward's, at a ladies' party. He, too, straddled a chair, and turned his back to the company. His potations could be his only apology, if he did not intend insult. He knew better.

Mr. Webster.

At a dinner given by Mr. Webster, when Secretary of State, to General Cass, on his return from France, Mr. Webster requested Mr. Pageot, the French Minister, to take his seat next the wife of the Spanish Minister, "as you speak the languages she understands, French and Spanish, which I do not speak." Before going in to dinner, Mr. Pageot took Mr. Fletcher Webster, the son of the Secretary, aside, and inquired, "Am I invited here to be insulted? Am I invited as Minister of France, or not?" Mr. Fletcher Webster said he did not understand the object of the inquiry. While the explanation was being made, dinner

Miss Cass.

was announced, and Miss Cass was left without an escort. To relieve her from embarrassment, Mr. Barnard, of Albany, offered his services. Just at this moment Mr. Pageot offered himself as escort to Miss Cass, and Mr. Barnard retired. Mr. Pageot did not address a word to Miss Cass, but made snappish replies to her, and she then gave him no further consideration, but fancied

Mr. Pageot.

he was ill. On their return to the drawing-room, Mr. Pageot made known his griefs to General Cass, who disregarded them as unworthy of consideration. Not long afterward, Mr. Pageot gave a dinner, to which Mr. Webster was invited. No notice

Charles Bird King — Corcoran Gallery of Art

HENRY CLAY

In the movement in favor of the election of Henry Clay to the Presidency, in 1832, Mr. Tayloe manifested a deep interest, and from that time until the day of its final dissolution was regarded as one of the most influential and active members of the Whig party in the District of Columbia. To Mr. Clay, personally, he was warmly attached. That great statesman and true patriot was his frequent guest, and he regarded his election to the Presidency as of incalculable value to the best interests of the country.

Wm. Edmund Barrett photograph

Daniel Webster's decanter, owned by descendants in Washington

was taken of him, then Secretary of State. The Postmaster-General, Mr. Wickliffe, had the post of honor, and Mr. Webster seated himself among the most humble at the table. This premeditated insult was not noticed by the Secretary of State, but Mr. and Mrs. Webster ceased to visit Mr. and Mrs. Pageot. After a while, Mr. Webster met Mr. Pageot at the table of Mr. Bodisco, the Russian Minister. Mr. Pageot endeavored to appear dignified, but Mr. Webster carelessly took hold of a decanter, and looking at the French Minister, said, "A glass of wine with you, Mr. Pageot," and he had to swallow it.

Mr. Bodisco.

Mr. Clay, in August, 1840, in compliance with an urgent invitation, visited Nashville, to make a Whig speech in support of General Harrison's nomination. To this speech General Jackson replied by a newspaper communication, charging Mr. Clay with falsehood. Mr. Clay made an immediate reply. With regard to the "insinuations and gross epithets contained in General Jackson's note, alike impotent, malevolent, and derogatory from the dignity of a man who has filled the highest office in the universe, respect for the public and myself allows me only to say that, like other similar missiles, they have fallen harmless at my feet, exciting no other sensation than that of *scorn* and *contempt*."

Henry Clay.

When Gouverneur Morris, our Minister to France, was presented to Louis the Sixteenth, the King was struck by the resemblance he bore to the Bourbons, and said to him, "I do not know that any of my family have been in America." "But mine have been in France, your majesty," was the rejoinder.

On his return from France, Mr. Morris visited England, and

Gouv. Morris.

received distinguished attentions there. One of his friends, a lady, brought him and the Prime Minister together. On their introduction, preceding the dinner, Mr. Morris said, "Permit me

Mr. Pitt.

to say to you, Mr. Pitt, that you know nothing about American affairs." Mr. Pitt made a bow, and left the room. His hostess followed him, and as he was about to leave the house, inquired in alarm, "What has happened?" "I make it a point, madam," replied Mr. Pitt, "never to remain in a house where I am insulted."

Mr. Fox.

The same lady thought she would be more fortunate in bringing Mr. Morris and Mr. Fox together at dinner. On the first opportunity for conversation, Mr. Morris said to Mr. Fox, "I do not at all agree with your views on the slave trade." "I see," said Fox, "you know nothing about it."

General Tureau.

GENERAL TUREAU, a savage general of the French Revolution, was Minister from France during the administrations of Jefferson and Madison. Being destined for the guillotine, he made his escape by the aid of the jailer's daughter, whom he afterwards married. She followed him to this country, but he did not introduce her to society. He had an accomplished secretary, Count de Carbre, who played exquisitely on the flute. One warm summer evening, the neighbors of Tureau, in the "Seven Buildings," were aroused by the cries of Madame Tureau. De Carbre endeavored to drown them by his music. The people near the house became indignant, and threatened to pull it down. In the height of the excitement, the eccentric Dr.

Dr. Thornton.

Thornton appeared upon the scene. He rushed into the house, and even into the room, to arrest the flagellation of Madame by her brutal husband. On doing so, General Tureau fiercely said

to him, "Dr. Tornton, you do not know de law of de nation." "But I know the laws of humanity, and I mean to enforce them," said the Doctor. The irate general was silenced. Ultimately he sent his wife to France.

Mrs. General Jackson was full of the milk of human kindness, and remarkable for her good deeds, and her devotion to the Church. The late Judge Bryan, of Washington, told me that when a youth (his father, a religious man, being an intimate and valued friend of Mrs. Jackson), he was on a visit to the Hermitage. Mrs. Jackson talked to him of religion, gave him a hymn to read that was sung at a late funeral, and said, "The General was disposed to be religious, and she believed would join the church, but for the coming Presidential election; that his head was now full of politics." While they were in conversation, the General came in with a newspaper in his hand, to which he referred as denouncing his mother as a camp follower, &c., exclaiming, "This is too bad!" and working himself up into such a passion that he swore quite as terribly as "our army in Flanders." When nearly exhausted and out of breath, Mrs. Jackson approached him, looked him in the face, and simply said, "*Mr.* Jackson!" He seemed subdued in a moment, and did not say another word.

Mrs. Jackson.

General Jackson.

A Mr. Creighton considered himself engaged to Miss Louisa Caton, and followed her to Europe. She responded, "*You* are engaged to *me;* not I to you."

Louisa Caton.

When in London, in 1837, my friend Admiral Wormeley gave me a dinner, and placed me next to Admiral Sir Charles

Sir Chas. Napier.

Napier. He was vain, conceited, talked big, and much of himself, and in very broad Scotch, too. A radical, very hostile to political opponents. He abused some of the British naval commanders in America, during the last war, especially Sir Alexander Cochrane and Sir George Cockburn. He said the disastrous campaign against New Orleans was gotten up to gratify Admiral Cochrane's cupidity, that he might seize the cotton. Of Cockburn, he said we could not detest him too much. He was a blackguard and a robber, and had disgraced himself in America. He also spoke of his own expedition up the Potomac, and of the capture of Alexandria. But he did *not* tell a story told by others: that on being remonstrated with by the civil authorities for the seizure of flour, &c., he replied, "I take a wholly different view of the case, and for my part, by God! I should like to be at the *socking* (so pronouncing the word sacking) of *London!*"

Captain Gordon.

Admiral Napier told me of his disappointment at the news of peace, "For," said he, "in a fortnight I was to have fought my ship (the Euryalus) with the Constellation, Captain Gordon, then lying in Hampton Roads—the Euryalus in the Chesapeake." He then told the story, addressing himself to the naval officers at the table, how the challenge had been given, brought to him by a "lawyer (since, Governor Tazewell), who wanted to take every advantage, offering terms I could not accept; but at last the matter was concluded, and I had no doubt about the result, for I had a fine ship in perfect discipline." He spoke in admiration of General Jackson, and desired me to convey his respects to him.

General Jackson, in reply to my inquiry, when seated next to him at his table, told me he believed there was ground for the

Thomas Eakins Philadelphia Museum of Art

VIEW FROM PRESIDENT HAYES' WINDOW, 1877, DETAIL

Lafayette Square was enclosed by a fence shortly after the Jackson statue was put up in 1853, the legislation for it being written by Henry Clay at the suggestion of his friend Ogle Tayloe. It was removed in 1899 and taken to Gettysburg. The fence, Jackson's statue, and St. John's steeple can be seen here.

W. H. Bartlett Columbia Historical Society

The south side of the President's Park originally reached the Tiber Creek almost at the point where it met the Potomac River.

belief that the British soldiers were encouraged to fight at New Orleans by the use of the words "Beauty and Booty," and that he thought "the least the English said about it, the better." These were his words, at the same time saying "*he* did not wish to revive the subject, and it had better be dropped." Beauty and Booty.

When John Quincy Adams was President, Mr. Webster took Mr. Featherstonehaugh, an English gentleman, who married Miss Duane, of New York, to the White House, and introduced him to Mr. Adams. Mr. Adams, as Mr. Featherstonehaugh told me, did not speak either to Mr. Webster or to him. "At last," said Mr. F., "I determined that Mr. Adams should say something; so as we were leaving the apartment, I remarked, 'What a fine view of the Potomac the windows commanded.'" Mr. Adams then said that he was reminded by the mention of the Potomac of a very singular adventure which had occurred to him on its shores, and on Mr. F. inquiring the nature of it, he stated that "a few days before, he was bathing in its waters, and on coming out he discovered that his clothes had disappeared, owing to the rise of the tide." "What did you do?" inquired Mr. Featherstonehaugh. "I walked along the shore," said Mr. Adams, "until I met a boy, whom I dispatched to the house with a message to Mrs. Adams, and after some delay he returned with another suit of clothes." J. Q. Adams.

Mr. Featherstonehaugh left the Executive Mansion with a clearer idea of republican simplicity than he ever had before.

The late Senator Pearce, of Maryland, told me he was one of the Committee of Arrangements on the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln. On being presented to Mr. Lincoln, the latter inquired, James A. Pearce.

President Lincoln

"Are you James Alfred?" This being answered affirmatively, Mr. Lincoln said, "You are shorter than I am by six inches; not tall enough to turn away the balls." They were to ride in the carriage together, and some apprehensions had been expressed of the danger of assassination. The residue of the programme was laid before Mr. Lincoln by Senator Foote, of Vermont, the Chairman of the Committee, leaving one point of little importance, on which the Committee did not agree, to be decided by Mr. Lincoln. He responded by an anecdote of an occurrence in his part of the country. He said it was expected a lawsuit would be decided by the testimony of a stranger, a very respectable-looking man, dressed in black, with a white cravat, and supposed to be a preacher. On being called to the book, and asked whether he would swear or affirm, he replied, "I don't care a damn which!"

Lord Napier.

Mr. Buchanan, when President, said to me, as if intended for Lord Napier, with whom I was intimate, "Does not Lord Napier know that his intimacy with Seward is very offensive to the administration?"

Mr. Fillmore.

In the summer of 1864, I wrote to Mr. Fillmore on the subject of the Presidential nomination, and expressed my preference for himself as a candidate of the Conservatives. In his reply, Mr. Fillmore remarks, "I can assure you in all sincerity that I have no desire ever to occupy that exalted station again, and more especially at a time like this. The truth is, that this patient is brought by the quack doctors, who control the administration, to the verge of the grave, and it is a serious question whether anything can be done for his recovery, and whether it is not more

necessary to employ an undertaker than a new physician. 'Fools may rush in where angels fear to tread,' but for myself, I greatly prefer to stand back."

Mr. Madison.

When Mr. Madison (in his old age, and very feeble) was reposing on a sofa at Montpelier, he asked a friend to take a chair near him, with the remark, "Strange as it may appear, I always talk better when I *lie*."

Mr. Madison was something of a humorist, a man of refined wit, and a capital talker.

Corcoran Gallery of Art

William Wilson Corcoran's garden on the Square, looking north from the portico.

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS FOUNDATION
THE OCTAGON
1799 New York Avenue, N.W.

The American Institute of Architects Foundation, a non-profit charitable educational and research organization, was founded in 1942 to promote public awareness of architecture. Its symbol is The Octagon, a Federal style townhouse designed in 1799 for Col. John Tayloe III by Dr. William Thornton, a distinguished amateur architect. Dr. Thornton was the first architect of the U.S. Capitol.

The Octagon, a National Historic Landmark, served as the temporary residence of President and Mrs. James Madison after the British burned the White House during the War of 1812. It was in this house that President Madison signed the Treaty of Ghent in 1815.

After Mrs. Tayloe's death in 1855, the condition of The Octagon deteriorated. Recognizing The Octagon's architectural and historic significance, the American Institute of Architects made The Octagon its national headquarters in 1898. The AIA carefully restored the house, now an historic house museum open to the public free of charge. A number of Tayloe possessions are on display, an indication of the continuing interest and support given by the family.

Exhibitions about architecture, decorative arts, design and Washington history are shown in the galleries located on the second floor. The AIA Foundation also sponsors historical and applied research, lectures, scholarships, publications, and administers a collection of drawings and photographs.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON
Loughboro House
3039 M. Street, N.W.

Founded in 1913 to train young women as volunteers in the community, the Washington League is now one of 250 in North America. Members first worked in hospitals, children's programs and the Associated Charities, but soon moved into innovative projects in social work, education, mental health, museums and the arts.

Recently, local history and preservation have become major concerns. One outgrowth of this has been the books listed on the next page, whose purpose is to publish previously unpublished, or out-of-print, first hand accounts of the City's past.

"La Fayette Square was Society", observed Henry Adams, who built on the Square's north side in 1884. This year we reprint Ogle Tayloe's early writings of life, events, and famous names around the "President's Park".

In 1901-2 the McMillan Plan for Washington called for the demolition of every building on Lafayette Square except for the White House, so that uniform government offices in the Neoclassical style could line the streets. This remained the official plan until 1962.

The successful efforts of many people over many years finally changed that threat into the present restoration of the Square. Thus the Tayloe house survived and serves an important purpose as part of the National Courts complex. The Junior League acknowledges gratefully the help of George E. Hutchinson, Clerk of the U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals whose research and deep personal interest in the house and Square have been valuable to us. It is our hope that this book, in turn, will help keep alive the character and life of Washington.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON
PUBLICATIONS IN THE FIELD OF LOCAL HISTORY

"THE CITY OF WASHINGTON: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY"
BY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON
384 PAGES, OVER 700 ILLUSTRATIONS
ALFRED A. KNOPF, 1977

REPRINT SERIES OF PRIMARY SOURCES

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BY CHRISTIAN HINES
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR, 1866
REPRINTED 1981, 128 PAGES, 24 ILLUSTRATIONS AND NOTES
BY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON
FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF
THE COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"OUR NEIGHBORS ON LA FAYETTE SQUARE
ANECDOTES AND REMINISCENCES"
BY BENJAMIN OGLE TAYLOE, PRIVATELY PRINTED
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Early Recollections -

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